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Miyazawa's Bangkok Speech Marks Asian Policy 'Shift'

OW1801091593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0841 GMT 18 Jan 93

[By Masanori Kikuta]

[Text] Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, Jan. 18 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's Southeast Asian tour marked a shift in Tokyo's foreign policy from largely economic diplomacy, under the specter of its military past, to greater political leadership aimed at ensuring regional stability and prosperity.

And that new policy direction, spelled out in Miyazawa's speech in Bangkok on Saturday, appears to have won the understanding of top government leaders in the countries he visited—Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Brunei, all members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

But analysts and diplomats said Japan must substantiate its promise of partnership with ASEAN on political and security matters through action if it is to clear away lingering suspicions about its intentions.

"I have obtained the understanding of the leaders I talked with," Miyazawa told a news conference after the speech in Bangkok, the third stop on his just completed eight-day tour, referring to Japan's bid for a greater political role in the region without seeking to be a military power.

Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai voiced hope at a dinner he hosted for Miyazawa on Friday that Japan and Thailand "will become new allies facing new challenges to promote stability, security, and prosperity in the region by using the force of democracy and the market economy, to which both of us adhere."

Chuan lauded Japan's decision to send troops to Cambodia as part of a United Nations peacekeeping mission and said Japan "could contribute much by acting under the UN framework in cooperation with the ASEAN countries in maintaining durable peace and stability." He even suggested the time might be ripe for Japan to become a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

"It was the first positive speech by an Asian leader regarding a bigger Japanese political role," an elated senior Japanese Foreign Ministry official said.

"It was unprecedented to go as far as using the term 'allies' in bilateral ties. It's historic," said the official, who requested anonymity.

But the major Japanese daily ASAHI SHIMBUN said in an editorial on Saturday that Japan must back Miyazawa's pledge to "think and act together with ASEAN" in its Asian diplomacy from now on.

A senior Thai Foreign Ministry official, writing in the English daily NATION on Friday, said "Some lingering doubt about the desirability of a more active Japanese political role is likely to remain" until Japan clarifies its intentions toward the region to the satisfaction of its partners.

"Building trust will take time, but it will be time well spent," wrote Sarasin Viraphol, former minister at the Thai Embassy in Tokyo and now the ministry's director general for American and South Pacific affairs.

"Now is an ideal opportunity for Japan to prove that she is up to the challenges of international responsibility," Sarasin said.

"Bearing in mind the lessons of history, Japan can now take further concrete steps to ensure that her partners will never again have cause to question her foreign policy motivations," he said.

Miyazawa, apparently aware of such concern, told a group of Japanese reporters accompanying him that Japan "must keep saying we will never make the same mistakes" as the invasion of most of its Asian neighbors before and during World War II.

He reiterated during the trip that Japan will never become a military power again and pledged to "take further care to improve education in Japan so that the lessons of history will be reflected in the daily conduct of the Japanese people."

Miyazawa also cautioned against moves among some of his colleagues, including Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, to seek revision of Japan's war-renouncing constitution to allow participation in UN peacekeeping operations involving the use of force.

Japan must not be so impudent as to take advantage of the recent apparent decline in regional sensitivities to its bitter past, Miyazawa said. "Fifty years is a short period, though it may seem long," he said in reference to the postwar era.

Miyazawa's "attempt to smooth ruffled feathers may have done the job for the time being," Sarasin said.

"But these conflicting signals (from Japan) have again raised the question of Japan's real intentions toward the region," he added, stressing the need for a "definitive policy" to alleviate such uneasiness.

He advised Japan to engage in both formal and informal dialogue regularly with its partners in the region as "one way of lending greater transparency and predictability" to its foreign policy.

Miyazawa Considering Indonesia's Request on G-7 summit

OW1601122293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1158 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Text] Bangkok, Jan. 16 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Saturday [16 January] that as host of the Tokyo economic summit in July he is considering how to meet Indonesia's request for a chance to convey the views of nonaligned countries at the

conference. Miyazawa said Indonesian President Suharto, who chairs the Non-Aligned Movement, told him on Tuesday that the 108-nation group "is very different from what it used to be" in that its stance has changed from confrontation to dialogue with industrial countries. "Indonesia wishes to communicate this new thinking in some manner to the summit countries," Miyazawa, who is on the third leg of a four-nation southeast Asian tour, told a news conference.

Miyazawa called Suharto's request unprecedented but said he understood the reasons for it. Miyazawa said Suharto was not asking to actually take part in the summit.

"The request is unprecedented and I do anticipate numerous difficulties but I am sounding out other summit member countries," he said. "I am thinking how their views are going to be conveyed because it is important for the summit members to know these new developments."

A consensus is emerging among personal representatives to summiteers to take up as main topics problems of developing countries along with those of the post-Cold War world economy and former Soviet republics, Miyazawa added.

Referring to Japan's intention to play a bigger security role on Southeast Asia, which he mentioned in a policy speech earlier in the day, Miyazawa said the most important message Tokyo must keep sending to the region is that it is resolved never to be a military power.

He said the leaders of Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand, whom he has so far met on his eight-day tour ending Monday with a visit to Brunei, accepted this. Japan hopes to maintain the position that it will "think and act together" with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), he added. The four countries on Miyazawa's itinerary are all members of ASEAN, which also includes Singapore and the Philippines.

Miyazawa said that despite recent attacks on peacekeepers' quarters, he does not see the need for any drastic policy change regarding Japan's role in United Nations peacekeeping operations. Locations where peacekeepers are staying have been attacked, including those where three Japanese civilian police reside, resulting in the first deaths of two local staff members.

"These (attacks) are not of the nature that will undermine the very premises with which Japan has sent its personnel on the peacekeeping mission," he said.

Japan's peacekeeping cooperation law limits duties of members strictly to noncombat roles and requires them to withdraw if their safety is endangered by ceasefire violations. Miyazawa said Japan has urged the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to ensure the safety of its members, of whom 675 are Japanese.

Miyazawa Sends Message to Cambodian Peacekeepers

OW1601041793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0403 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Jan. 16 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Saturday forwarded a message to Japanese peacekeepers in Cambodia, expressing gratitude for their service to help bring democracy to the war-ravaged nation, officials said. The message—conveyed by his emissary sent from Bangkok to their Cambodian base in Takeo—read, "I express my gratitude and respect in view of the toils of you who are carrying out your duties in tough surroundings."

The emissary, Deputy Cabinet Secretary Motoji Kondo, gave the message to the engineering troops of the Japanese Self-Defense Forces who have been fixing bridges and other infrastructure, as well as to civilian officials monitoring compliance of four rival factions with the terms of a ceasefire that ended the 13-year war. The prime minister also said in the message that the reports of Japanese peacekeepers' services are heightening public support for the Self-Defense Forces. The message also read that Japan as an economic superpower carries the obligation to actively contribute to defending a peaceful world order following the end of the Cold War.

ASEAN Issues Statement on Cambodia

BK1601023593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Jan 93 pp 1,3

[Text] The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) yesterday hailed Prince Norodom Sihanouk's decision to run in a presidential election, saying it would help break the impasse in the Cambodian peace effort.

ASEAN foreign ministers voiced support for the prince's decision after expressing "deep concern" about the present deadlock and "intensified military activities" in Cambodia.

In a joint statement released yesterday, the foreign ministers urged all Cambodians to agree to the holding of a presidential election, which "would help reinforce the overall peace process and overcome the present impasse in the implementation of the Paris Peace Agreements."

They also urged all Cambodians to "cooperate in the spirit of national reconciliation and to exercise self-restraint in order to prevent the situation from deteriorating any further."

"We call on all Cambodian parties to comply with their obligations under the Paris Peace Agreements.. In particular, we call on the Party of Democratic Kampuchea (the Khmer Rouge) to comply fully with all its obligations under the Paris Peace Agreements," they added.

According to a nationalist Cambodian source, the Khmer Rouge have not rejected the idea of holding a presidential election, but have made clear they would not

participate in presidential or general elections until "the Vietnamese question" is solved.

The Khmer Rouge have refused to disarm or allow access to their zones by United Nations officials, claiming that Vietnam still has forces in Cambodia.

They also claim that the powers due the Cambodian reconciliation council, known as the Supreme National Council (SNC), have been withheld.

The foreign ministers "view with deep concern the current impasse in the Cambodian peace process," the statement said.

They cited "increasing incidents of political harassment, intimidation and even assassinations perpetrated against the personalities and political workers of especially FUNCINPEC and the KPNLF which could eventually lead to renewed large-scale fighting in Cambodia "

Prince Sihanouk's FUNCINPEC and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) of former prime minister Son Sann were partners with the Khmer Rouge in the anti-Vietnamese resistance during a 13-year war against a Vietnamese-installed government in Phnom Penh.

"We are also gravely concerned over the recent spate of killings of residents of Vietnamese origin," the statement said.

ASEAN played a key role in forging a political settlement of the Cambodian conflict.

The foreign ministers urged all Cambodians to cooperate with UNTAC to help bring about a "neutral political environment" so that free and fair elections can be held.

The Paris peace agreement of October 23,1991, provides for election of a Constituent Assembly but does not call for a presidential election.

UNTAC chief Yasushi Akashi indicated at a press conference in Phnom Penh on January 11 that a presidential election could be held under a resolution of the United Nations Security Council.

"We welcome and fully support His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's announcement of 8 January 1993 that he is ready to be a candidate in a presidential election to be held in April or May 1993," the statement said

"We believe that HRH Samdech Norodom Sihanouk will be able to play a pivotal role in bringing about national reconciliation among all Cambodians, which is essential if genuine and lasting peace in Cambodia is to be attained," it added.

"Cambodia needs political stability prior to and after the general election of members of the Constituent Assembly scheduled to be held in May 1993," it said.

"An elected president would facilitate the conduct of the general elections and would also provide an anchor of stability in the period after the general elections," it went on.

He would effectively serve as the unifying force of the country pending the drafting of the new Cambodian constitution and the establishment of a new Cambodian overnment.

"We believe that such a presidential election would help reinforce the overall peace process and overcome the present impasse in the implementation of the Paris peace greements.

"We therefore strongly urge all Cambodian parties to agree to the holding of a presidential election."

Thai Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sakthip Krairoek told reporters yesterday that the new Cambodian president will form a coalition government of the four Khmer factions to replace the SNC in running the country in the period leading up to the general election. This will help overcome one of the stumbling blocks in the peace process caused by the Khmer Rouge's claim that the SNC has no power. The new Cambodian president could be appointed to be chief of the armed forces, said Mr Sakthip, and could then order all factions to disarm, which would overcome the distrust among the groups. The presidential election could hopefully be held in April or May, which means the May general election may have to be postponed, he sid. The spokesman could not say, however, how the UN Security Council will respond to ASEAN's latest move on Cambodia.

The move was endorsed by all ASEAN members, including Indonesia, the co-chairman of the UN-sponsored Paris International Conference on Cambodia, he noted.

ASEAN Plan for Cambodia Calls for More Powerful SNC

BK1701024093 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 17 Jan 93 p 5

[Text] ASEAN's latest peace initiative for Cambodia calls for a substantial transfer of power in the administration of the trouble-plagued country from UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] to the Supreme National Council (SNC). A highly-placed Thai Government source said this transfer of power will be effected after Cambodia's presidential election for which nominal head Prince Norodom Sihanouk has agreed to run.

The transfer of power from UNTAC to a rejuvenated body comprising all the four rival Khmer factions under an elected president is necessary to overcome the stalemate, the source said.

The deadlock has been caused by the Khmer Rouge's refusal to disarm and participate in the second phase of the peace accord against intermittent allegations by the two other factions, FUNCINPEC [National United

Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and KPNLF [Khmer People's National Liberation Front], that the Phnom Penh regime has been abusing its power.

Describing UNTAC as similar to a high commissioner treating Cambodia like a colony, the source claimed the excessive power presently bestowed in UNTAC—and the administrative powers in the hand of the Phnom Penh regime—has caused resentment among the three factions formerly opposed to Phnom Penh and posed a serious obstacle to the peace process. UNTAC's power will be scaled down under ASEAN's latest proposal and limited to the maintenance of safety and security along the border regions.

Thai Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri will be discussing details of the ASEAN proposal with Prince Sihanouk in Beijing today.

The prince earlier agreed to take part in the proposed presidential election, which is expected to take place around April or May. Cambodia's general election which was earlier targetted for May is now likely to be postponed.

ASEAN's formal endorsement of the proposal marks a significant step forward following somewhat uncoordinated moves on the Cambodian question in the recent past, the source said.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri yesterday expressed confidence that Mr Akashi will be able to convince the UN to endorse the proposed presidential elections. Speaking to reporters after meeting Mr Akashi at the Foreign Ministry yesterday afternoon, Mr Prasong said the proposed presidential election not only received the support of ASEAN countries, but also of Mr Akashi himself.

Mr Prasong stressed that the four Cambodian factions should spend the rest of the time during which UNTAC remains in Cambodia to act positively towards their country, and cooperate for the reconstruction of Cambodia. He also declined to comment on the proposed interim coalition government, saying:

"It is not yet time. I want to stress that for the past two three months, we have been trying very hard to link up with all sides to settle this problem."

Earlier, after meeting visiting Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, Mr Akashi said both elections, presidential and for the constituent assembly, will be carefully coordinated to ensure they will not be contradictory.

"Presidential elections are very important in breaking the impasse," Mr Akashi told reporters after meeting Mr Prasong.

"If the secretary-general accepts the idea and the Security Council approves it, they will organise both elections in such a way that they are complementary," Mr Akashi said. The UN chief in Cambodia said he briefed the Japanese Prime Minister about the latest developments in Cambodla. He said Mr Miyazawa supported the proposal to hold presidential elections.

Asked if Mr Miyazawa expressed concern for some 700 Japanese personnel stationed in Cambodia, Mr Akashi said of the latest incident in which two Cambodians working for UNTAC were killed in Siem Reap:

"It is still not clear, we are still investigating, there are other possibilities, these things do happen. We try to take much precautions but we have to continue our electoral process. More than 95 per cent of the eligible Cambodian voters have registered, this shows that Cambodian people want to participate. Our electoral people go everywhere even areas considered quiet dangerous. I tell them do go too far in the jungles and forests, but their enthusiasm is unstoppable. [sentence as published]

"And this is evidence of wanting peace and democracy after 20 years of incessant fighting. We'll go everywhere we can to register and later safeguard the actual voting process. Nobody has the right to prevent this process from taking place," said Mr Akashi.

The UN chief in Cambodia, however, refused to comment on the proposed setting up of an interim coalition government in Cambodia.

Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said he told his Japanese counterpart that the Cambodian problem could not be resolved without the participation of all Cambodian factions. He said all tbe Cambodian factions must cooperate to solve the problem. He believes all the other factions will accept Prince Sihanouk's candidacy for the presidential election.

UNTAC Chief Briefs Miyazawa on Cambodia Situation

OW1601125793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1226 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Text] Bangkok, Jan. 16 KYODO—United Nations peacekeepers who were killed last week in Cambodia were apparently the victims of bandits and not the Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction as speculated earlier, a senior U.N. official reportedly said Saturday [16 January].

Yasushi Akashi, head of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), made the comment as he briefed Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on the latest situation in the war-ravaged country, Miyazawa's aides said. Akashi, a Japanese national, visited Miyazawa briefly at a Bangkok hotel where he was staying on the third stop of a four-nation tour of Southeast Asia.

Miyazawa showed strong interest in the Tuesday incident, which involved attacks on residences where Japanese civil policemen had been staying near Siem Reap in northwestern Cambodia, the officials said. The Japanese policemen were away on vacation at the time of the attack, but two local staff members were killed. Akashi also told him Cambodia's general elections are expected to take place in May as scheduled, with about 90 percent of eligible voters registered. Miyazawa later met with three senior members of UNTAC's Japanese contingent comprising 600 troops and 75 civilian police.

Japan

Miyazawa Gives Asia Policy Speech 16 Jan

OW1901132793 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0547 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Speech by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa at a meeting hosted by the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand at the Dusit Thani Hotel in Bangkok—live]

[Text] I feel very privileged by this opportunity to address you, hosted by the tradition-honored Foreign Correspondents' Club of Thailand, in association with the Confederation of Thai Journalists.

With the collapse of the cold war structure, the international situation is undergoing historic changes. It has been my desire, through this trip to four ASEAN countries, to think anew about how we should shape the cooperation between Japan and the ASEAN countries with the future of the Asia-Pacific region in mind, and about the role Japan should play in this regard.

Ladies and gentlemen, in the Asia-Pacific region where we live, political and social conditions are generally stable, despite some ongoing disputes and conflicts. Economically, the region continues to enjoy dynamic growth, turning to its advantage its characteristically rich diversity and high level of openness. This wave of dynamism is now reaching China's coastal regions and Indochina. This economic development is creating more mature political and social conditions in each country and area, and is thereby contributing to the stability of international relations in the area. So much so that this Asia-Pacific region may indeed be acquiring a great potential to contribute politically and economically to the peace and prosperity of the world.

In my conversations with the ASEAN leaders thus far in this trip, I have sensed their confident and strong will to speak and act in the interest of the international community. To fulfill this ASEAN aspiration and make the Asia-Pacific a more resilient and richer region which will contribute to the peace and prosperity of the world—this certainly is a most worthy goal for Japan-ASEAN cooperation.

Today, I should thus like to focus on the following three areas concerning the new cooperation between Japan and the ASEAN countries.

First, cooperation for peace and stability

The first area of cooperation is to secure peace and stability in this region.

The most salient characteristic of this region, which is sweepingly called the Asia-Pacific, is its diversity. With respect to security, the sources of threat vary from country to country, and the modalities of meeting the threat are also varied.

Thus, to ensure its security, each country of this region adopts the path it deems most appropriate in light of its own historical, political, economic and geopolitical circumstances. Bilateral security arrangements are one of the important paths chosen. Many countries give their highest priority, for their internal and external security, to promoting economic development and thereby enhancing the resilience of their societies.

This diversity should continue to be regarded as an inherent factor in the consideration of security in this region. Each local conflict in this region, such as in the Korean peninsula, Cambodia and the South China Sea, has its own unique background. The resolution of these conflicts should be sought most effectively through such frameworks as are best suited to the individual circumstances.

At the same time, it is clear that the collapse of the cold war structure and the resultant fluidity in international relations are bound to affect the security landscape of this region as a whole. This awareness on the part of the countries of the region has, of late, sharpened their interest in the peace and stability of the region as a whole. It is important for the Asia- Pacific countries to share this interest and to enhance the transparency of their respective policies as well as their sense of mutual reassurance. Highly significant in this regard is the political and security dialogue which has been actively under way in the ASEAN post-ministerial conference since last year.

In this period of transition for the international community, the countries of the Asia-Pacific region need to develop a long-term vision regarding the future order of peace and security for their region. For this, various ideas should be thrashed out through political and security dialogue among the countries of the region. I hope that some picture of the future of this region's security will be gradually distilled through such a process, based on shared perceptions and concerns. Japan will actively take part in such discussions.

Japan will do so with the belief that the presence and engagement of the United States, which has underpinned the region's peace and prosperity, will continue to play an important role in the future as a stabilizing factor for the region. Thus, Japan intends to maintain steadfastly the Japan-U.S. security arrangements, and continue to provide host-nation support actively. I believe that our doing this will contribute to the peace and stability of the region as a whole.

Secondly, Japan and the ASEAN countries need to cooperate in order to enable the economy of the Asia-Pacific region to continue to develop in an open and dynamic manner.

The development of the Asia-Pacific economy has been achieved through the market mechanism and the free and open multilateral trading system. I believe that for the economy of this region to remain open both within and to the outside world will provide an impetus for

further development of not only of the region itself, but also for the revitalization of the global economy. A scenario we must avoid at all costs is a replay of the 1970s, in which the vicious spiral of mutual distrust and egoism led to narrow-sighted protectionism and the formulation of trade blocs. The most urgent task today is for all negotiating partners to make mutual concessions from a long-term perspective so as to bring the Uruguay Round to an early and successful conclusion.

It is clear that there is a need to expand further the activities of APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) whose basic goal is open cooperation and which now has its own secretariat and budget.

As the state of the world economy does not yet warrant bright prospects, it is essential that the economy of the Asia-Pacific region, in particular that of the ASEAN countries, continue its dynamic development.

Between Japan and the ASEAN countries, trade has been expanding, for the past few years, at an annual rate of approximately 20 percent. In particular, exports of manufactured products from the ASEAN countries to Japan have grown remarkably, about 4.6 times from 1986 to 1991. Japanese direct investment to the ASEAN countries since the plaza accord in 1985 amounts to roughly 20 billion dollars. It is evident that these factors have contributed greatly to the economic development of the ASEAN countries.

A matter of major interest to the ASEAN countries is the future flow of investment and technology transfer. Japan will continue to further promote these flows by such means as using official credit facilities. We would also like to move forward with the ASEAN countries by exchanging new ideas on, for example, how best to provide a better investment climate in a broad sense, including the development of infrastructure and supporting industries, human resources development, and institutional improvements.

Japan's ODA (official development assistance) to the ASEAN countries, since 1969 has amounted to approximately 20 billion dollars. For the past 10 years, ASEAN has accounted for about one-quarter to one-third of Japanese bilateral ODA every year. Japan will continue to expand its ODA steadily in accordance with its ODA charter announced last year. It is gratifying to note that the ASEAN countries are moving ahead toward economic take-off, and Japan will continue to regard Asia, including the ASEAN countries, as a priority region for its ODA.

What is also noteworthy is the growing interest among the ASEAN countries in enhancing the kind of cooperation where developing countries help one another; for example, some developing countries may disseminate to other developing countries the experience and know-how they have acquired in the process of their own development. Japan would like to extend its cooperation to this kind of initiative.

For the Japan-ASEAN cooperation to evolve in all these areas, it is essential to further mutual understanding between the Japanese people and the peoples of the ASEAN countries. The "friendship program for the 21st Century," started in 1984, plays a significant role in this regard. More than 7,000 young people from the ASEAN countries have been invited to Japan under this program. I intend to extend this program for another five years after its present phase ends in March 1994.

Naturally, the sound expansion of the Japanese economy is important for Japan to carry out these forms of cooperation. People in the ASEAN nations are interested in knowing what will happen to the Japanese economy. As you know we are in a very bad recession. The Japanese Government last summer adopted a comprehensive package of economic measures amounting to about 90 billion dollars, and is working hard to implement it smoothly. Japan is also making its best efforts to manage its economy in an appropriate and timely manner, so as to achieve noninflationary and domestic demand-led growth; the budget proposal for the next fiscal year, for example, takes full account of the current economic condition in Japan.

Thirdly, Japan and the ASEAN countries need to tackle together tasks common to humankind.

I firmly believe in the great potential of the Asia-Pacific region for building a safe, prosperous and fair society toward the 21st century. For this potential to be realized, the political and social foundations are necessary which would enable the people of this region to fully exert their capacity. To promote democratization and advance fundamental human rights is a universal task for humankind. The recent developments of democracy in Thailand are indeed encouraging. Japan intends to take the approach it deems to be most pragmatic and effective in light of each circumstance to see that the region will benefit from these values.

While economic development will continue to be important for this region, it needs to be pursued in tandem with environmental conservation. I announced at the UNCED (United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development) last year that Japan would substantially expand its environment-related ODA, with a view to providing this type of ODA amounting to about 7 to 8 billion dollars during the five-year period from fiscal year 1992. It would in effect mean that the annual average of this type of ODA would be close to 1.5 times that of the preceding three years. Within this, a similar degree of increase is contemplated with respect to the ASEAN countries. For this kind of environmental aid to be effective, partnership between donors and recipients is indispensable. I would therefore welcome positive and concrete ideas and advice from the ASEAN side.

The rapid economic and social changes should not alienate us from our own culture. It is our duty to pass our culture on to posterity, and it will in fact be our

contribution to preserving the richness of world culture. Japan has been cooperating in the restoration and preservation of Sukhothai in Thailand, Angkor monuments in Cambodia, Borobudur in Indonesia, and other historic cultural monuments. This region is also a repository of many other important cultural assets and diverse traditional arts. I should like to propose an international conference of experts to discuss the means to preserve this region's invaluable traditional culture and to elicit the cooperation of the countries concerned to that end.

Ladies and gentlemen, I should now like to touch on cooperation with Indochina.

The Paris peace agreements on Cambodia, concluded in October 1991, represent a historical first step toward achieving peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

I earnestly hope that a durable peace will be achieved in Cambodia, and that in the near future a day will come when all Cambodians will unite at heart and devote themselves to the reconstruction and development of their country. The peace process is, however, still fragile despite immense efforts by those involved. I urge, once again, all the Cambodian parties, Democratic Kampuchea in particular, to cooperate fully with UNTAC. Japan has sent approximately 700 personnel to Cambodia on the basis of the international peace cooperation law enacted last year. We will continue such personnel contributions and also continue to work in other ways for the smooth implementation of the peace process.

I express my deep respect to the ASEAN countries for their untiring diplomatic efforts for the Cambodian peace process and their contribution in personnel. Praise is especially due to Thailand, Cambodia's neighbor, for having made large sacrifices in accepting a large number of refugees as well as taking measures which impose domestic burdens in order to implement the recent United Nations Security Council resolution.

The conclusion of the Cambodian peace accords opens the way not only to Cambodian reconstruction but also to the promotion of the policy of openness by Vietnam and Laos. It thus makes it possible for Southeast Asia, which consists of the countries of ASEAN and Indochina, to develop as an integral whole. Such development has consistently been the goal of Japan's Indochina policy since 1977, when Prime Minister (Takeo) Fukuda articulated in Manila Japan's policy of contributing to the building of peace and stability in the whole of Southeast Asia by expanding the scope of mutual cooperation and understanding throughout the region. Although subsequent developments concerning the Cambodian problem regrettably made it difficult to achieve this goal, it has finally become possible for the countries of Southeast Asia to share peace and prosperity. It is welcome that the countries of ASEAN and Indochina have begun to develop ties as good neighbors and good partners.

Japan considers it important that these countries of Southeast Asia strengthen their organic cohesion and pursue the development of the region as a whole. With this in mind, Japan intends to extend its cooperation to the improvement of infrastructures, human resources development and other areas to assist in particular the socioeconomic development of Indochina. To this end, I should like to propose establishing a "Forum for Comprehensive Development of Indochina." This forum would be designed to formulate strategies for harmonious development of the entire region of Indochina, by bringing together the experience and wisdom of the experts from interested countries and international organizations and other qualified personalities encompassing both the government and private sectors. They are expected to hold free and constructive discussions and exchanges of views on the way with which trans-border cooperation and regional development of the entire Indochina should be conducted. Japan would like to host an international meeting in Tokyo around autumn this year to make preparations for this forum. I mentioned this to the prime minister yesterday and he agreed with me. We would like to work together for the future of Indochina once peace is established there.

Lades and gentlemen, let me summarize the four points that I consider particularly important as Japan and the countries of ASEAN jointly seek to contribute to the peace and prosperity of the Asia-Pacifc region and of the world.

Firstly, the promotion of political and security dialogue among the countries of the region to strengthen Asia-Pacific peace and stability, and to think seriously about the future vision of the region's security.

Secondly, continued efforts to enhance the openness of the Asia-Pacific economy and to promote dynamic economic development in this region.

Thirdly, active efforts to tackle such tasks common to humankind as promoting democratization and pursuing development and environmental conservation in tandem.

Fourthly, collaborative cooperation between Japan and the ASEAN countries to build peace and prosperity in Indochina.

In contemplating such cooperation between Japan and ASEAN, I believe there are two premises.

The first is that Japan shall never again become a military power. For the past half-century, Japan has consistently followed the path of a nation dedicated to peace under its peace Constitution. This is the strong will of the Japanese people based on their remorse over Japanese past actions, and we shall never stray from this path. I intend to take further care to improve education in Japan so that the lessons of history will be reflected in the daily conduct of the Japanese people.

The other point is that Japan will attach particular importance to the very process of talking with the ASEAN countries. This means that Japan will think and act together with ASEAN.

The "ASEAN Way" is indeed an apt word; our experiences show that respecting and following the process of dialogue is frequently conducive to producing good ideas. We should not act in haste, but be patient. Through a process of discussion, we would like to find a path that we should follow.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Asia-Pacific region has begun a vigorous advance toward a promising future. ASEAN, which celebrated its 25th anniversary last year, is a major driving force of this advance. As chairman at the economic summit to be held in Tokyo in July, I intend to take care that the importance of the dynamism of the Asia-Pacific countries, including ASEAN, be fully taken into account in the summit process. I am quite confident that the wisdom and vigor of the ASEAN countries will become an important pillar which supports the future of the international community, at a time when the world is searching for a new international order. Thank you.

Report on Public Works Spending Denied

OW1901081193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0329 GMT 19 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 19 KYODO—Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi said Tuesday that the Finance Ministry is not at present considering front-loading public works spending in fiscal 1993, which begins April 1.

Hayashi said it would be "discourteous" to the Diet to do so, as the legislature, which will begin its regular session Friday [22 January], has not yet had chance to discuss the fiscal 1993 budget plan that was approved by the cabinet last month.

The NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, a major business daily, reported in its Tuesday morning edition that the government is planning to front-load public works spending by 75 percent in the first six months of the fiscal year, following a similar measure taken in the current fiscal year to stimulate the economy. Normally about 60 percent of contracts are signed in the first half.

Hayashi also disclosed that the government has decided to issue commemorative gold coins to mark the wedding of Crown Prince Naruhito and Masako Owada, whose engagement was approved Tuesday morning.

Turning to recent military operations conducted by the U.S.-led coalition against Iraq, Hayashi predicted that the action will not last very long and said that at the moment Japan has no intention of making financial contributions toward the costs of the allies.

Japan contributed 13 billion dollars in the Persian Gulf war in 1990 to cover the costs of the allied forces and to help alleviate the effects on poor countries.

North Korea

Pyongyang Radio Reports 17 Jan U.S. 'Bombing Raid' on Iraq

SK1801234993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2119 GMT 18 Jan 93

[Text] According to foreign news reports, the United States attacked Iraq with cruise missiles on 17 January. A U.S. White House spokesman confirmed that day that in accordance with the decision made by President Bush and his key advisers in a meeting, the United States carried out another air strike on Iraq. According to high-ranking sources in the U.S. Defense Department, U.S. vessels in the Red Sea and Persian Gulf fired about 30 Tomahawk cruise missiles for 20 to 30 minutes at a nuclear facility about 20 km south of Baghdad.

The British BBC reported that a hotel in the center of Baghdad was hit by a missile, wrecking the building. Many civilians were killed or wounded. An Iraqi spokesman for the Ministry of Culture and Information denied U.S. claims that a nuclear facility was the target of the attack. He said that everyone knew it was a machine plant.

Foreign news reported that several hours before the cruise missile attack on 17 January, U.S. military planes carried out an air raid on an Iraqi ground-to-air missile launch pad. Also, a U.S. military F-17 fighter plane shot down one Iraqi fighter plane over northern Iraq. More than 100 planes of the multinational forces led by the United States had carried out an air raid on Iraq on 13 January, the first time since fighting stopped in the Persian Gulf region on 28 February 1991.

A U.S. Defense Department spokesman revealed that of the four missile launch pads targeted, only one was destroyed. In a statement issued on 14 January, an Iraqi military spokesman revealed that because of the indiscriminate air raid by the multinational forces on civilians and military targets on cities in the southern region, many buildings were destroyed, 19 civilians were killed, and 15 people were injured.

Forty-eight hours after this air raid, U.S. President Bush demanded that Iraq allow a plane carrying a U.N. inspection team, which is currently in Bahrain, into Iraqi territory at once. He warned that if Iraq does not respond within the appointed time it will receive military retaliation.

Iraq is saying that its antiaircraft forces are defending its territorial airspace as a way to deal with the invasion of the multinational forces' planes. Therefore, it cannot guarantee the security of the plane carrying the U.N. inspection team. It also announced that if the United Nations prohibits the flight of the multinational forces' planes in the no-fly zone, it will allow the plane carrying the U.N. inspection team into its territory through western Jordan and guarantee its safety.

An Iraqi military spokesman announced that on 14 and 15 January Iraq's antiaircraft forces shot three enemy planes in the no-fly zone, and on 17 January another three enemy planes were driven out by heavy fire.

In accordance with U.S. President Bush's order, the first detachment of the U.S. military special mobile strike forces composed of 1,100 people arrived in Kuwait on 15 January and were deployed. On 17 January, the commander of the U.S. Forces in Kuwait, revealed that it is considering (?relocating) the launching pads of interceptor missiles to deal with a possible missile attack from Iraq.

In a 17 January speech on the second anniversary of the outbreak of the war in the Persian Gulf, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn said that even if we are attacked, the Iraqi military will not be defeated and all cities in Iraq will remain as an impregnable fortress. He also said that the cruise missile attack on Iraq by the United States was a complete failure. He appealed to the Iraqi military to fight the attackers.

Also on 17 January in Baghdad, tens of thousands of Iraqis carried out protest demonstrations by burning an effigy of Bush and the flags of the United States, France, and Great Britain.

NODONG SINMUN Denies Existence of Chemical Weapons in DPRK

SK1601031293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0025 GMT 16 Jan 93

[NODONG SINMUN 16 January commentary: "New Anti-Republic Stratagem"]

[Text] The United States and the South Korean authorities who conduct anti-Republic commotions by babbling about our nuclear threat, are now criticizing us by raving about chemical weapons, which we do not have.

A few days ago, the United States made the South Korean foreign minister criticize us groundlessly on our supposedly being capable of producing chemical weapons and our supposed stockpile of a certain amount of materials for the production of chemical weapons. These moves show that the United States and the South Korean authorities are more persistently engaged in all sorts of vilification to open a new stage of anti-Republic commotions.

The innocence of our peaceful nuclear policy has been proven and acknowledged by the world's broad public circles and the so-called nuclear threat has been exposed thoroughly as a deceitful invention of the U.S. and South Korean authorities. Under these circumstances, the U.S. and South Korean authorities are shamelessly inviting new suspicions of chemical weapons to make it an excuse for stepping up anti-Republic maneuvers. Needless to say, their attempt to fabricate the suspicion of chemical weapons in addition to the nuclear suspicion is motivated by their need to justify the resumption of the Team Spirit joint military exercise. However, these stratagem maneuvers of the U.S. and South Korean authorities only reveal their own crassness.

The United States is a criminal that committed chemical warfare in Korea. During the Korean war of aggression, the United States dropped infectious insects carrying such germs as pest, cholera, and typhus in the northern half of the Republic and used various germs and chemical weapons, cruelly killing many people. Everyone knows this as it was made public by the historical documents produced by the international investigation team. This barbaric act of chemical warfare by the United States cannot be erased from history. The world is well aware that the U.S. and South Korean authorities are pushing forward preparations to wage a new chemical war in Korea. The United States and the South Korean authorities do not deserve to criticize others with the issue of chemical weapons.

It is the consistent position of the government of our Republic to oppose the development, production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons. This position of the government of our Republic reflects our people's aspiration for peace. Our people, who suffered the calamity of chemical warfare by the United States, are aware more than anyone else of the danger and disaster of chemical weapons. This is why our people invariably and resolutely oppose and reject all sorts of chemical weapons.

We keenly feel the need to ban chemical weapons, which are the weapons of cruel mass destruction, and consistently call for turning the Korean peninsula into a zone free from chemical weapons as well as nuclear weapons, and are making every effort to realize it. However, the United States and the South Korean authorities are engaged in all sorts of maneuvers to bring chemical calamity to the Korean people again.

In South Korea today, various types of chemical weapons are produced and stockpiled in enormous quantities in the poison gas plants brought from the United States. Chemical bombs [hwahak tan] of various types are deployed for actual combat purposes in the Military Demarcation Line area.

The stern reality is that it is not us but the U.S. and South Korean authorities who create the threat of chemical weapons in Korea. No matter how skillful the U.S. and South Korean authorities may be in reversing the right and the wrong, they can never falsify the truth of this reality.

The United States and the South Korean authorities should not clumsily attempt to blame others with the issue of chemical weapons but join our efforts to turn the Korean peninsula into a peace zone free from nuclear weapons and chemical weapons.

Gates 'Invented Misinformation'

SK1601050993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 16 Jan 93

["NODONG SINMUN on Sophism of U.S. CIA Chief"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 16 (KCNA)—Gates, chief of the Central Intelligence Agency [CIA] of the United States, told WASHINGTON POST that "international inspections of North Korea's nuclear facilities have failed to resolve the issue because of limited access provided to inspectors and because of disturbing evidence of efforts to deceive".

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today brands his sophism as a balderdash without anything true.

In a commentary titled "Flippant Remarks" the analyst says:

During his tenure of office as the boss of the U.S. intelligence agency, Gates has invented misinformation concerning the non-existent "nuclear arms development" by the DPRK to back the U.S. wrong policy towards Korea and has taken the lead in the anti-DPRK campaign. Nobody is likely to be surprised by the ridiculous utterances made again by him in his last days of office. His remarks totally misrepresented the reality of the DPRK and the peaceful nuclear policy of its government.

It is not the DPRK that "deceives". It is the United States that fakes up false information and misleads world public opinion. Nor is it the DPRK that obstructs the settlement of the nuclear inspection problem. The United States is the very one that throws a snag in the way of solving the problem fairly, putting pressure on the DPRK with misinformation reversing black and white and misrepresenting the reality.

Gates is apparently seeking a sinister purpose in spreading lies in his last days of office. It seems that he wants to justify, if only a little, his crimes such as malicious anti-socialist, anti-DPRK acts by persistently fooling the world public opinion and leave the office "honorably". It is, however, piteous of a politician to do so.

Radio Commentary Says U.S., South Making 'Excuse'

SK1501143793 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Commentary by station commentator Chong Pong-kil: "To Find an Excuse To Resume the Team Spirit War Exercise"]

[Text] As has already been reported, on 14 January, a DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman released a press statement to comment on the fact that the United States and the South Korean authorities, after raving about suspicions about our nuclear development, are now babbling about nonexistent chemical weapons. They are finding fault with us.

In his press statement, the spokesman said that on 9 January, the United States had the South Korean foreign minister groundlessly found fault with us, insisting that we have the so-called capability to build chemical weapons or possess a certain amount of materials for building chemical weapons. Our spokesman denounced this as an act that discloses their intention to conduct the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise where nuclear weapons, chemical weapons, and other weapons of mass murder are mobilized.

As the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman has pointed out in his press statement, the United States and the South Korean authorities are babbling about our nonexistent nuclear weapons and recklessly finding fault with us. They are doing so to find an excuse to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise, and this is a vicious challenge to our people and peace-loving people all over the world who demand that the plan to resume the war exercise be canceled.

As everyone knows, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean rulers have decided to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise, which they had suspended, this year under the pretext of suspicions about our nonexistent nuclear development. This unreasonable measure by those wretched people is strongly denounced by our people, and people thoughout the world. The five rounds of irregular inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency have proven that we have neither the nuclear weapons nor the intention or capability to develop nuclear weapons. As a result, the United States and the South Korean authorities have not been able to find an excuse to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise. Therefore, those wretched people have now begun to babble about our nonexistent chemical weapons. They have tried to justify the resumption of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise. Their commotions concerning chemical weapons, however, cannot convince anyone either.

Our country has no chemical weapons in the first place, and the opposition by the government of our Republic to the development, production, storage, and use of chemical weapons is unchanging. The world admits this. Moreover, the Korean peninsula is a place where biochemical weapons were used for the first time by the U.S. imperialists after World War II, and our fellow countrymen personally suffered disasters from biochemical weapons.

During the Korean war, the U.S. imperialists and their servants brutally and indiscriminately used biochemical weapons against our Republic and people. The U.S. imperialists and South Korean puppets committed a criminal act of using chemical weapons and bacteriological weapons in the war. As a result, tens of thousands of innocent people were cruelly killed and injured. In addition, many people suffered from pains caused by various epidemics such as pestilence, cholera, and typhoid fever. Our people still remember these ravages vividly.

This fact has been proven by the international Democratic Lawyer Association's report on U.S. crimes committed against Korea. The association directly investigated the situation in our country and announced the report to the world.

Our people, who directly suffered from the catastrophe of biochemical weapons, are strongly calling for eliminating chemical weapons from world. They are also making all efforts to turn the Korean peninsula into a zone free of nuclear and chemical weapons.

The U.S. imperialists and South Korean rulers are, however, conducting all kinds of maneuvers to inflict, once again, upon our people the catastrophe of chemical weapons. The U.S. imperialists have already built a poison gas plant in South Korea. A large number of various chemical weapons are now produced and stockpiled in South Korea. In addition, various chemical warheads are deployed in areas near the Military Demarcation Line for actual war.

In particular, the U.S. imperialists and South Korean authorities have decided to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise, which is an attack exercise for northward invasion. The exercise uses a combination of nuclear and chemical weapons. This is a grave threat to peace and security on the Korean peninsula. Therefore, our people and the world's peace-loving people are greatly concerned about this.

All the above-mentioned facts show that it is only the U.S. imperialists and South Korean authorities who are producing chemical weapons along with nuclear weapons. They are planning to use them in their war exercise of northward invasion.

Despite this reality, they are loudly talking about the North's non-existent chemical weapons. This is a shameless act that is like a thief crying "stop thief." This act can only be taken by people who reverse black and white.

The United States and the South Korean authorities should stop kicking up a commotion, which no one believes, concerning chemical weapons. They should immediately cancel their decision to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise. They should join in our sincere efforts to turn the Korean peninsula into a peace zone free of nuclear and chemical weapons.

NODONG SINMUN Calls Kwon Tu-yong's ROK Death Murder

SK1701032293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0028 GMT 17 Jan 93

[NODONG SINMUN 17 January commentary: "Atrocity of a Brutal Massacre by Those Who Feel Uneasy"]

[Text] A tragedy occurred on 14 January in South Korea: the death of Kwon Tu-yong, former adviser to the Party for the Popular Masses, in prison. He was arrested by the military fascist group in connection with the scheming South Korean Workers Party of Korea [WPK] incident.

According to South Korea's Christian Broadcasting, he was found dead by hanging in the lavatory of his solitary cell in the Seoul Detention House on the morning of 14 January. The South Korean ruling bunch is blaming Kwon Tu-yong for having visited the North on two occasions and for having spent operational funds. They are also saying he committed suicide.

We have already clearly stated that the South Korean WPK incident is a preposterous, fabricated, and scheming scenario devised by the military fascist group. It was a criminal attempt to make the complicated and confusing South Korean political situation on the eve of the presidential election favorable to the Democratic Liberal Party so that it could regain power; oppress the people who are fomenting a heated atmosphere for reunification; and block the implementation of the North-South agreement.

The scheming truth of the incident was revealed from the beginning, and the South Korean political and society circles circles showered a hailstorm of criticism on the rulers.

The South Korean authorities are saying that they arrested Kwon Tu-yong because he visited the North and accepted operational funds and so on, but he has never had relations with us. We have never given so-called operational funds to anyone in South Korea. Also, there is no need to do so. The Agency for National Security Planning resorts to stereotyped methods by using accusations of visiting the North and bringing up some kind of operational funds whenever it fabricates an antirepublic scheming incident.

The South Korean ruling bunch is trying to bestow authenticity on the death of Kwon Tu-yong, who is alleged to be connected to the incident, as evidence. However, all they do is expose the scheming truth of the incident.

After fabricating the enormous South Korean WPK incident, the South Korean ruling bunch committed all kinds of barbarous atrocities, such as arresting many people and torturing them in order to force them to confess that it really occurred because opposition from the people at home and abroad was heightened.

The death of Kwon Tu-yong undoubtedly occurred during the fascist hangers' inhumane and barbarous torture. This is another horrible, murderous incident in the last days of the Sixth Republic.

The fact that he died in a cell and that a guard found him proves that he did not commit suicide but was murdered. Fearing that Kwon Tu-yong would reveal in court not only the truth about the groundless strategic South Korean WPK incident but also the truth about barbarous torture of innocent people, the South Korean fascist authorities killed him on the eve of a trial and disguised his death as suicide.

Torture and suppression are methods that the South Korean rulers have long employed to suppress the people. The South Korean rulers fabricated many political strategic incidents, including the People's Revolutionary Party incident in the 1960's. They tortured and massacred innocent men and women, old and young, including patriotic youth and students and figures of all strata, by linking them with the incidents. Then the South Korean rulers secretly hid their corpses. This is a well-known fact.

Under the military fascist rule in South Korea, many innocent people were killed by the hangers' atrocious torture and barbarities. Their corpses were found in a valley, a forest, a lake, and at the seaside. The South Korean ruling quarters have constantly taken such steps, repeatedly fabricated anticommunist strategic incidents, recklessly arrested innocent people, and executed or massacred them. This is grave political suppression. It is also an antinational and antidemocratic crime which cannot be tolerated.

The South Korean Democratic Liberal Party's regime is hysterically running wild in an attempt to maintain power and incite North-South confrontation. By so doing, they commit crimes repeatedly. Our people in the North and the South will never overlook the crimes of the South Korean ruling quarters. The South Korean authorities should confess to and apologize for the anticommunist strategic incident and tell the truth about torture and massacre. They should immediately release those who have been illegally arrested. They should receive the people's stern judgment as dictators and murders.

The South Korean people will duly punish the fascist dictators.

South Korea

JNCC Chairman Proposes 25 Jan Meeting

SK1801085393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0846 GMT 18 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 18 (YONHAP)—Kong No-myong, South Korean-side chairman of the inter-Korean Joint Nuclear Control Commission [JNCC], proposed to his North Korean counterpart, Choe U-chin, Monday to have a closed-door contact between themselves at the truce village of Panmunjom on Jan. 25 at 10 a.m.

Kong, in a telephone message, said that such a contact would be desirable to work out a breakthrough in facilitating talks on regulations on mutual nuclear inspections and to discuss a timetable for the JNCC operation. He proposed that he and Choe be accompanied by one official each for their contact.

Iraqi Crisis Worries ROK Construction Firms in Region

SK1901024893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0209 GMT 19 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 19 (YONHAP)—Fearing a resumption of the Gulf war, South Korean construction firms are scrambling to protect their projects in the region. They expect to win orders worth 1.1 billion U.S. dollars from countries in the Middle East this year, representing 24.4 percent of the 4.5 billion dollars in orders they expect worldwide. War clouds in the region have cast a pall over the Korean contractors, who say the Mid-East construction market supplied 20.4 percent of their orders last year.

Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co. is trying to win two large projects, one from Kuwait and one from Saudi Arabia, and Daelim Industrial Co. and Shinwha Engineering and Construction Co. are struggling to win orders but their bids may be influenced by the Gulf crisis. Hyundai and 25 other Korean firms engaged in 7 billion dollars of construction projects in 12 Middle East nations are working on countermeasures in case the Gulf war revives.

Hyundai restarted a road construction project worth 73 million dollars in Kuwait after the Gulf war and 18 Korean firms including Hyundai are proceeding with 51 projects valued at 4.35 billion dollars in Saudi Arabia.

Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, friendly to the United States, are the most likely targets for an Iraqi reprisal against coalition air attacks.

Korean companies are turning their eyes to the Southeast Asian construction market, because if the war resumes, construction in the Mideast is sure to be halted for a considerable time.

Koreans in Iraq Report No Injuries After Missile Strike

SK1901041093 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 19 Jan 93 p 2, 3

[Text] No injuries or property damage to Koreans in Iraq have been reported following the U.S.-led missile attacks against Iraqi nuclear facilities Sunday, the Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

Eleven of the 27 Korean workers and their family members in Iraq have already left the country after the first U.S. air strike against Iraq last Wednesday, and the others are also ready to leave at anytime, the ministry said.

Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok presided over a morning meeting in connection with the current Gulf crisis and instructed the ministry officials to double-check safety precautions for the Koreans residing in Baghdad, an official said. The 16 Koreans now living in Iraq included nine employees of Hyundai and their family members, four Samsung workers and three employees of the Korean Embassy, he said. The Hyundai and Samsung

employees are in Baghdad to manage their firms' construction equipment, the official said.

The Korean Embassy in Iraq has been closed since the Gulf war two years ago, and the Korean Embassy in Jordan is taking care of the Korean nationals in Iraq, the official said.

Also remaining in Iraq are three reporters of the Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. (MBC) and two other persons who are attending a meeting of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC), he said.

The Korean Embassy in Jordan has reported to the ministry that they have secured emergency food and water and transportation for removing the Koreans when necessary, the official said. Additional measures will be considered according to the development of the situation in the Gulf area, it said.

There are also 248 Koreans in Kuwait, including 70 Hyundai workers, 45 Daelim employees, six employees of trading companies, 23 diplomats together their family members and 104 others, the ministry said.

Nuclear Talks With Japan Note DPRK Development Effort

SK1901034193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0241 GMT 19 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 19 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Japan discussed nuclear conditions and policies at the Foreign Ministry Tuesday on the opening day of the joint nuclear consultative committee's third meeting. They also will discuss joint reaction to North Korea's nuclear development program, expanded transfer of nuclear safety technologies, stronger nuclear diplomacy and Japan's aquisition of plutonium in the two-day meeting. On Monday, at a working-level meeting, the two countries exchanged views on technological cooperation and the agenda.

Korea is represented by Cho Won-il, director-general of the ministry's International Economic Affairs Bureau, and Takaya Suto, ambassador in charge of science and technology, heads the Japanese side.

Russia Delays Repayment of Loan Interest

SK1701090993 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 17 Jan 93 p 7

[Text] Just before President Yeltsin's ROK visit of late last year, Russia repaid with much difficulty and nearly one year late the interest from its loan with the ROK. It has once again delayed the payment of two months' overdue interest.

In addition, the conclusion of a contract to supply Russian-produced aluminum ingot to help repay the bank loan's overdue interest has been delayed because of Russia's situation.

The Finance Ministry and the Export and Import Bank revealed on 16 January: "By the morning of 16 January Korean time, the Russian Government had been expected to pay January's share of interest of a consumer goods loan amounting to $2.10 million to the export and import bank account of the New York Bank of Trust. Russia, however, has delayed its payment again without giving any explanation."

The Russian side has not paid December's share of interest of the consumer goods loan amounting to $6.37 million. Therefore, the overdue amount of interest is $8.47 million.

The Russian side should pay $1.10 million in interest in February, but it is very unlikely that it will repay the debt by the appointed date.

Government and bank officials have said: "Russia has delayed the interest payments due to the instability in its political situation and economic difficulties. However, if the contract issues on the aluminum supply plant and overdue interest are not resolved soon, the proposed economic cooperation loan of $1.53 billion cannot be carried out."

These officials said November will be the deadline for repaying the principal sum of the consumer goods loan which was first enacted in November 1991. They point out that before this time, it will be inevitable for the new government to reexamine the policy of economic cooperation with Russia.

Iran Delays Payments to ROK Firms

SK1801020593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0143 GMT 18 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 18 (YONHAP)—Iran is delaying payment on imports from South Korea due to a severe shortage of foreign currency, the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA) said Monday.

Iran was more than a month late on 40 million U.S. dollars of bills in the construction sector alone at the end of 1992, according to the KOTRA. It owed another 40 million dollars for the rest of its imports from Korea such as steels, petrochemicals and automobiles. The total due is currently estimated at around 100 million dollars as payment for many Korean exports is due early this year.

Iran is plagued by a foreign currency shortage because it spent much on Soviet arms and because international oil prices weakened last year owing to oversupply. The reduction of oil purchases from Iran by major importers, including Japan and Germany, also fueled the scarcity of foreign money in the Muslim country.

A KOTRA official said that Korean firms were unlikely to get paid for their exports until late this year, adding that the lack of foreign currency there would continue for some time. The government started to conduct an official tally on how much Iran put off paying Korean comapnies for their exports.

Spokesman Expresses Concern About Japanese Plutonium Safety

SK1901110993 Seoul YONHAP in English 1036 GMT 19 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 19 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Japan on Tuesday discussed Japan's introduction of plutonium and the reported nuclear arms development by North Korea.

At the third Korea-Japan Atomic Energy Consultative Meeting held at the Foreign Ministry in Seoul, senior Korean delegate Cho Won-il, who is Foreign Ministry director-general for international economy, expressed concern about the introduction by Japan of a large amount of plutonium.

"Our government knows your country has been faithfully pursuing the peaceful use of atomic energy. But, as a neighboring country, we are concerned about safety during plutonium transportation," Cho said. He expressed the hope that in the future, too, Japan will use atomic energy only for peaceful purposes in strict adherence to the three non-nuclear principles. In response, chief Japanese delegate Takaya Suto, Foreign Ministry Science and Technology officer, said Japan is introducing 30 tons of plutonium from France and the United Kingdom.

Suto said, however, that since all of the 30 tons would be used only for purely economic and technical purposes, "concern about any long-term stockpiling of plutonium is totally unfounded." He also said Japan undergoes strict nuclear inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). "We have 42 atomic power reactors in all or 10 percent of the world's total but 25 percent of IAEA inspections is directed toward Japan," Suto said.

On North Korea's nuclear arms development issue, the Japanese official said his country would not make the on-going Japan-North Korea normalization talks progress at least until the North Korean nuclear issue is resolved.

ROK-U.S. Joint Fighter Plane Project Faces 'Stumbling Block'

SK1601023693 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0110 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Text] A serious stumbling block appears to have formed to obstruct the ROK's fighter plane project.

An official of the Ministry of National Defense said that the General Dynamics Company, a major U.S. contract partner of the ROK's fighter plane project, known as the KFP, recently sold its plant in Forth Worth, Texas, in the United States, which mainly produces F-16 fighters and tactical military aircraft, to Lockheed, its rival company, at $1.525 billion.

Accordingly, the KFP, which amounts to nearly $5.2 billion, will have to renew the contracts and memoranda concluded between the ROK and U.S. Governments and the main contractors. As a result, this is expected to be a serious stumbling block.

Our country concluded a contract on the KFP project with the U.S. Government and General Dynamics in March 1991. This contract stipulates that a total of 120 F-16 fighters—12 U.S. produced General Dynamics fighters, 36 assembled fighters, and 72 domestically produced fighters—will be imported and produced at home between 1994 to 1999.

Meanwhile, Daniel Terrep, the chairman of Lockheed, paid a courtesy call on Defense Minister Choe Se-chang on 15 January in connection with this project. He will reportedly be meeting with high-ranking officials of the ROK Air Force today.

No Impact on KFP Seen Due to Merger

SK1701033493 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 17 Jan 93 p 3

[Text] The South Korean government seeks to conclude a novation agreement with Lockheed Corporation and General Dynamics Corp. for fulfillment of the 5.2-billion U.S.-dollar Korean Figher Program (KFP) as Lockheed acquired General Dynamics, according to a military procurement source.

Headquartered in St. Louis, Mo., General Dynamics is the contractor of the multi-billion-dollar project under which South Korea will introduce 120 F-16 Fighting Falcon jet fighters over the five years from 1994.

On Dec. 9, 1992, the two key U.S. defense contractors reached an agreement in which Lockheed acquired the tactical aircraft business of General Dynamics for 1.525 U.S. billion dollars.

The source said yesterday that Lockheed's acquisition of General Dynamics wouldn't have any unfavorable impacts upon South Korea's ambitious fighter program. Korea projects to replace the aging fleet of F-5 combat aircraft of its Air Force with the sophisticated state-of-the-art jet fighters under the long-term KFP.

Lockheed chairman Daniel M. Tellep visited Defense Minister Choe Sae-chang Friday afternoon to assure that Lockheed's acquisition of General Dynamics would by no means affect the KFP project in spite of various misgivings, the source said.

The source said that the Defense Ministry and local companies involved in the KFP project including Samsung Aerospace Industries, a subsidiary of the Samgsung conglomerate, have worried that the fighter program might be either delayed or obstructed by the Lockheed-General Dynamics merger because the project went through twists and turns since its inception five years ago.

It was understood that Tellep came here after Lockheed's acquisition of General Dynamics to help dissipate worries about the smooth promotion of the KFP project.

Lockheed, the source noted, merged General Dynamics on the proviso that the acquisition would never affect the contracts made between General Dynamics and foreign countries.

But the Seoul government is seeking conclusion of a novation accord on the KFP project with Lockheed and General Dynamics to obtain an approval from the U.S. government of the fighter program, the source said.

It observed that once signature of the novation agreement is made within next month, Washington will approve the KFP in March.

It added that the acquisition wouldn't affect the fighter program, specifically, there will be no change in the cost of the project and its schedule. Seoul replaced McDonnell Douglas Co. with General Dynamics as its contractor for the KFP project three years ago.

Semiconductor Companies To Mass-Produce '16-Mega' D-Rams

SK1901090793 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 19 Jan 93 p 6

[Text] Domestic semiconductor businesses are going to enter into mass production of 16-mega D-rams from this year. According to the semiconductor business circles on 19 January, besides Samsung Electronics, which currently produces 16-mega D-rams, Hyundai Electronics and Goldstar Electron will start to mass-produce 16-mega D-rams sometime during this year.

Hyundai Electronics is now on a stage of pilot production of it and plans to produce 100,000 16-mega D-rams a month from March when the introduction of required production equipment will be completed. Goldstar Electron plans to produce 40,000 to 50,000 16-mega D-rams a month from the second half of this year after introducing required equipment by the end of the first half of this year. Meanwhile, Samsung Electronics currently produces 80,000 to 100,000 16-mega D-rams a month and will sharply increase its production with a view to a full-scale market likely to be built up within this year.

Editorial Finds Warren Christopher's Rice Comments 'Worrisome'

SK1601035093 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 16 Jan 93 p 6

[Editorial: "Christopher's Remarks"]

[Text] In this interdependent world of ours, no country can afford to keep its industries protected forever in total disregard of the interests of their counterparts in other nations. Furthermore, no country can slap down terms that would greatly disadvantage others. This deserves to be fully considered for the successful conclusion of the currently rough-going Uruguay Round multi-lateral trade talks.

Viewed as such, U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton's nominee for Secretary of State Warren Christopher's recent remarks that any attempt on the part of South Korea to create a barrier to U.S. rice exports would be "an unfortunate development" is indeed worrisome and even perplexing.

Rice is a life-and-death matter for Korean farmers, some 30 percent of whose gross earnings are derived from rice cultivation. Defense of the rice market is thus perceived here as a dire necessity, on which the future of many millions of the rural population depends. What is more, the disparity in the price of Korean rice and foreign products is conspicuous. Local rice commands six to seven times the average international price. Once our market is cracked open to imports of inexpensive foreign rice, Korea's agriculture, relying heavily upon that commodity, is thus bound to suffer a fatal blow.

This is the very reason why Korea joins similar rice-growing countries in pleading to make the grain a non-trade concern in the ongoing Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks.

Once the domestic rice market is opened, the government will be compelled to restructure the farming industry and increase farmers income through other welfare policy measure, making it all the more difficult for our economic policy makers to salvage the already declining rice farming.

Although we trust our government, both incumbent and the incoming administration of President-elect Kim Yong-sam will do its best in trying to persuade the new U.S. Government against giving rise to such an outcome, there is a limit to what it can do. [sentence as published] We must look at this stark reality and search for an effective way of coping with conceivable challenges.

All in all, a new framework must be sought in a forward-looking manner, remembering that the two countries are not trade adversaries but mutually beneficial trade partners. Korea-U.S. relations should not be measured by economic destiny in the making of a new Pacific era which is rapidly unfolding.

Certainly more time and latitude are needed for Korea to comply to the best of its ability with Secretary of State-designate Christopher's overwhelming demand for rice market access. It would not pay to try to go all the way in one stroke. It would be also a pity to allow the rice issue to impair the traditional good relations between the two nations. If the United States substantiates the impression that it bullies its smaller partner in the cold and egoistic pursuit of selfish interests, it will serve the good of neither in the long run.

Hyundai Denies Report on Plan To Close Canadian Auto Plant

SK1501121993 Seoul YONHAP in English 1201 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—The Hyundai Motor Co. Friday denied as "not true" a foreign dispatch report that Hyundai was planning to close down its assembly plant in Canada.

"We have at no time studied the possible closure of the assembly plant in Canada," a company official said. A foreign wire service reported from Montreal Friday Hyundai was thinking of closing down the assembly plant because of the sluggish sales of its cars in North America.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

Japanese Prime Minister Arrives in Brunei

BK1701073293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0718 GMT 17 Jan 93

[Text] Bandar Seri Begawan, Jan 17 (AFP)—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa arrived here Sunday to wrap up his eight-day tour of four Southeast Asian nations. His two-day visit to this tiny oil-rich sultanate on Borneo island is expected to enhance Japan's ties with its stable energy supplier, Japanese officials said.

Miyazawa, 73, flew in on a special DC-10 aircraft from Bangkok, to complete his January 11-18 swing which also took him to Indonesia and Malaysia. All four are members of the six-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

His visit also comes as Tokyo finalises plans to renew a 20-year-old contract for the purchase of liquified natural gas (LNG) from Brunei. Accompanied by a 62-member delegation, Miyazawa was met on arrival at the Brunei international airport by Brunei's Finance Minister Prince Jefri Bolkiah.

Miyazawa is scheduled to hold talks later Sunday with Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Omar, ruler and prime minister of Brunei, that will focus on the July summit of the group of seven industrialised nations (G-7) in Tokyo, Japanese officials said.

"Our prime minister is keen to seek the sultan's opinion on Japan's role in the forthcoming G-7 summit," Yasuo Nakamura, minister-counsellor of the Japanese Embassy here, said in an interview. Nakamura said although Japan's investments in Brunei's were minimal, Tokyo viewed the sultanate as an important member of ASEAN.

"Our investments over the last 20 years total 109 million U.S. dollars, mainly in the oil and gas sector," Nakamura said.

He said two private missions were sent to Brunei last year to explore possibilities of expanding investments in Brunei.

"But the missions found Brunei too small to make investments viable," he said. Brunei, however, is an important supplier of oil and gas, he said, adding that in 1991 Brunei sold 337 million U.S. dollars worth of oil and 1.077 billion U.S. dollars of LNG to Tokyo.

Japan was expected to renew a 20-year-old contract to buy LNG from Brunei before April, Nakamura said.

Diplomats here said Sultan Hassanal was expected to urge Miyazawa to encourage more Japanese investments in Brunei other than in oil and gas to help broaden its economic base.

Miyazawa is scheduld to meet the 200 over Japanese citizens in Brunei before departing for Tokyo Monday.

Briefs King on Forum Proposal

OW1701121793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1104 GMT 17 Jan 93

[By Masanori Kikuta]

[Text] Bandar Seri Begawan, Jan. 17 KYODO—Brunei's ruler offered Sunday to join an international forum for the development of Indochina proposed by Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah made the offer during a 45-minute meeting with Miyazawa hours after the Japanese leader arrived in the oil-rich kingdom on Borneo island on the last leg of a four-nation Southeast Asian tour, a Japanese spokesman said.

Miyazawa, who made the proposal in a major policy speech in Bangkok on Saturday, briefed the king on the speech, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Motoji Kondo told a news conference. The king is also prime minister and defense chief.

In the speech, Miyazawa said Japan intends to play a key role in promoting security dialogue in the Asia-Pacific region and unveiled a plan to hold a preparatory meeting for the proposed forum in Tokyo this fall.

Outlining these points to the sultan, he renewed Japan's pledge never to become a military power, the spokesman said.

The sultan showed understanding of Japan's thinking about regional security and voiced hope Brunei will participate in a security framework if set up in the future as suggested by Miyazawa in the speech.

On bilateral matters, Miyazawa said he has instructed transportation authorities to start talks early with Brunei to conclude a civil aviation agreement, spokesman Kondo said.

The sultan expressed hope for an early conclusion of the planned talks designed to allow Brunei's national airline to serve Japan.

Of the six members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Brunei is the only country without a regular air link to Japan.

Miyazawa voiced hope Brunei will continue supplying natural gas to energy-hungry Japan on a regular basis, referring to ongoing private-sector negotiations to renew a 20-year gas supply contract which expired in December, the spokesman said.

The predominantly Muslim kingdom of 260,000 people supplies all of its natural gas and 30 percent of its crude oil to Japan.

Brunei gas accounts for 14 percent of Japan's total liquefied natural gas imports.

Miyazawa assured the ruler of Japan's continued technological assistance to Brunei, which has one of the world's highest income levels and is striving to develop industries other than energy before its oil and gas reserves run dry.

Miyazawa will leave for Tokyo on Monday, ending the eight-day ASEAN tour which earlier took him to Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.

Later Sunday, Miyazawa said at a palace banquet hosted in his honor by the sultan that Japan "highly values" Brunei as a reliable gas and oil supplier.

"I hope that our existing bonds will be not only maintained but strengthened, broadened and deepened in the years to come," he said.

Repeating what he said in his Bangkok speech, Miyazawa also said cooperation for the peace and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region constitutes a priority area of Japan's collaboration with ASEAN.

"I hope that we, as close friends and partners, will be able to continue to think together and act together in the pursuit of peace and prosperity in the region and beyond."

Speaks on Constitutional Revision

OW1701090293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0831 GMT 17 Jan 93

[Text] Bandar Seri Begawan, Jan. 17 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Sunday he opposes a proposed revision of Japan's pacifist Constitution despite growing calls for such a change.

He made the remark in a meeting with a group of Japanese reporters in Brunei, the final stop of his tour of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) members.

Miyazawa said it is dangerous to turn debate on a proposed constitutional revision into "a political banner" without careful consideration of what changes they would like to insert into the Constitution.

He made the remark when asked if he thought a regrouping of alliances of various political parties may result in light of party responses to the proposed revision.

His statements followed remarks by Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, who called for such a constitutional alteration to enable the Japanese contingent in the UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia to join activities that may involve the use of force.

Article 9 of the Constitution bans the use of force to resolve international conflicts.

Watanabe was later joined by Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, chairman of the Policy Affairs Research Council of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

Mitsuzuka called for setting up a new panel of legislators from both the LDP and opposition parties for discussion of the constitutional matter.

Miyazawa noted that some ASEAN leaders "advised Japan to step up its activities related to UN peacekeeping operations."

Although it is good some ASEAN nations are less uneasy about Japan, he said, "we should not drop our reservations" on proposed participation in the military phase of UN peacekeeping operations.

"If the United Nations adopts resolutions approving the activities of multinational forces, it implies that the forces are acting under the UN framework," Miyazawa said.

"Whatever frameworks they might act under, it would amount to using force and (Japan) must draw a line distancing itself (from such military activities)."

The premier implicitly called on the advocates of such constitutional revision to remember Japan's bitter past as an aggressor during World War II, including its invasions of other Asian countries.

"I have to continue to assert that Japan must not repeat those mistakes," he told reporters.

He said he belongs to a generation who has to make such assertions, adding Japan's wartime experiences "have something to do with the issue of the constitutional revision."

Alluding to Japan's defeat in World War II, Miyazawa said, "Fifty years is a short period, though it may seem long. We should not forget easily."

He denied speculation that he may call a general election early this year, saying, "When I think of the economic situation, there are no such leeway to squander time by dissolving the House of Representatives," a legal step that mandates a general election.

He said he would place priority on securing speedy parliamentary passage of the 72 trillion yen national budget bill for fiscal 1993.

Leaves for Japan 18 Jan

BK1801103693 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 18 Jan 93

[Text] Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa wrapped up a tour of four Southeast Asian nations today that analysts say may herald the beginning of a new regional security role for Japan. While pledging to work closely with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, ASEAN, on Indochina's peaceful development, Miyazawa offered repeated assurances that Japan was not trying to become the region's policeman. Miyazawa's spokesman, (Sadaki Nomasa), said in Bandar Sri Begawan that Japan was remorseful for the sufferings it inflicted in World War II and had no intention of repeating its mistakes.

Malaysia

Rulers Fail To Reach Decision on Amendments

BK1601092493 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Text] The Malay rulers have failed to reach a decision on the proposed amendments to the Federal Constitution to limit their immunity at their informal meeting today. The official meeting of the rulers council will be held on Monday and a final decision will be made on that day. The prime minister told newsmen as he was leaving the Istana Negara [National Palace] after meeting the rulers in an unofficial meeting, that the attorney-general will be asked to work out a solution.

The minister of finance, Datuk Sri Anwar Ibrahim, who also attended today's meeting told newsmen that he is confident of a positive answer on Monday. The environment at the meeting today was better than that of previous meetings.

The attorney-general, when approached by newsmen at the Istana [Palace] gates, said that that there was a possibility of the draft amendments being further amended. He said he will have to look into the matter and try to find a solution to the problem. Asked about which areas are being disputed, Tan Sri Abu Talib said he did not sit in today's meeting and did not know what transpired. Asked about Monday's sitting of Parliament's Lower House, he said it is too early to make a decision on the matter.

All nine Malay rulers attended today's unofficial meeting. They met among themselves for over an hour. The prime minister and his deputy, Mr. Ghafar Baba and Datuk Sri Anwar were then summoned to the palace. The rulers began leaving the Istana at about 1.30 PM.

Urge More Study of Proposals

BK1801074093 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 18 Jan 93

[Text] The Conference of Rulers has unanimously decided that it is not in a position at this date to give the consent on certain proposals in the original bill and subsequent amendments to the Federal Consitution without further deliberations and consultations with the government. It is of the view that the proposals in the present form, if brought into effect, will make radical changes to the sovereignty, position, and dignity of the Malay rulers. In a statement, the rulers said they felt that a more detailed study of the principles and mechanisms involved in the proposed amendments needs to be made.

Immunity Rules To Change Despite Objections

BK1901035493 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0303 GMT 19 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 19 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The government Monday went ahead with its proposal to remove the legal immunity of the Malay rulers though the rulers, who until Sunday had indicated they will give their consent, changed their mind at the last minute.

This unexpected development is likely to spark off a constitutional crisis far worse than ever experienced, say observers.

Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed tabled the Constitution (amendment) bill at a special sitting of the Parliament Monday, hardly two hours after the conference of rulers had said in a statement they were withholding consent for the law.

A crisis is expected to emerge because Article 38 (4) of the Federal Constitution states that "no law directly affecting the privileges, position, honours or dignities of the rulers shall be passed without the consent of the conference of rulers."

The statement by the conference of rulers Monday surprised many because the meetings between the rulers and the government on Saturday and Sunday had given the picture that a positive solution would be reached Monday.

Dr. Mahathir told reporters Monday night he did not know what happened.

"We were made to believe from our discussions (at an informal meeting with six of the rulers) that they were in agreement. At least six of them agreed," he said.

"But something else happened today. Although we had accommodated them and had discussed the setting up of a special court in detail, it seems that the discussions were meaningless," he added.

Deputy Prime Minister Comments

BK1601085993 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Text] The government will not go back on its efforts to amend the Federal Constitution to limit the rulers legal immunity in their personal capacity even if they did not agree to this. This was stated by Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Ghafar Baba. He said the government adopted this stand, not with the intention of abolishing constitutional monarchy, but to ensure that the people's interests were always safeguarded. This is the responsibility of the government to its people in a democratic country. He made known the government's stand at a function at the MARA Technology Institute in Kuala Lumpur.

Mr. Ghafar said whether the constitutional monarchy remained or not, did not depend on the government or the people but on the wisdom of the rulers themselves. He also said it was not certain if the special meeting of the rulers today is valid or otherwise because of their refusal to allow the prime minister and chief ministers to attend.

According to the Constitution, the rulers cannot hold the meeting of the rulers' conference without the presence of the prime minister and chief ministers. Mr. Ghafar said

the constitutional monarchy should listen to the advice of the prime minister or chief minister—if not whose advice are they going to listen to? He gave an assurance that the government has no ulterior motives such as abolishing the monarchy in the country by introducing the amendments to the Federal Constitution. The amendments will have to be made as the government felt that only through this way the rulers would be vigilant and not go against the law. Mr. Ghafar said the rulers in this country should learn from what happened in Iran and Egypt, which lost the (?institutional) monarchy because of the attitude of the rulers themselves.

In Ipoh, Perak, Finance Minister Datuk Sri Anwar Ibrahim said the government's move to amend the Federal Constitution arises from the attitude of the rulers themselves and not from its own desire. It stresses that the amendments are aimed at enhancing the dignity of the rulers and not to abolish constitutional monarchy in the country. He was speaking at a gathering to explain the amendments organized by Perak UMNO [United Malays National Organization]. Datuk Sri Anwar noted that the issue, which concerns the people being victimized by the rulers, have been [word indistinct] despite much advice. As such the government has no choice but to defend the interests of the people. He said the rulers should be the umbrella shielding the people and the state, for without the people there would be no king and government.

Meanwhile, the conference of rulers are meeting at Istana Negera, the National Palace, in Kuala Lumpur today to make a stand on the government's move to amend the Federal Constitution to limit the rulers of their legal immunity and other obstacles to the amendments. This is the first official meeting of the rulers conference since the UMNO Supreme Council, which met on 10 December, urged the government to amend the Federal Constitution following an alleged assault on Maktab Sultan Abu Bakar [Sultan Abu Bakar College] hockey coach, Douglas Gomez, by the Sultan of Johor at Istana Bukit Serene in Johor Baru last November.

The Malay rulers had earlier held four unofficial meetings in Kuala Lumpur—once at Istana Negeri Sembilan and twice at the Istana Negara, including the fourth meeting yesterday. There are still no (?positive) signs today whether to accept or reject the proposed constitutional amendments after requesting a week's grace from their 9 January meeting with an UMNO Supreme Council delegation led by the prime minister and party president, Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed, to make the decision.

However, the prime minister and the chief ministers were not present at today's special 159th meeting, unlike the normal meetings of the conference of rulers.

Media Campaign To Oppose Sultans' Immunity

BK1901125993 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 19 Jan 93

[Text] The Information Ministry is to launch a big-scale information campaign from today to explain to the people the government's decision to amend the Federal Constitution to limit the rulers' immunity. The minister, Datuk Mohamed Rahmat, says the people need to be given full explanation on the reason for the amendment to avoid misunderstanding that could lead to confusion.

The government will continue to preserve the constitutional monarchy in the country. It is aware that many quarters had given wrong interpretation to the government's move on the issue. As such, the various agencies under the ministry will meet the people face to face in carrying out the information campaign, which will also involve Radio and Television Malaysia. The minister stressed that it is not the wish of the prime minister to amend the Constitution, but the decision of the government.

Manufacturing Sector's 1992 Performance Viewed

BK1301121593 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Jan 93 p 14

[Text] Ninety percent of the total amount of investment proposals approved between 1986 and 1991 were invested.

International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz said of the total RM90.42 billion [Malaysian Ringgit currency] worth approved during this period, RM81.8 billion had been invested.

She said this showed that many of the projects approved took off the ground and that the implementation rate was now higher. "We must remember that some of the projects need a lead time," she told a press conference in Kuala Lumpur on the performance of the manufacturing sector in 1992.

Asked what the Government would do to maintain the strong flow of investments into the country, she said particular attention would be paid to further improve the investment climate.

"We are developing the human resources and shifting our focus to the promotion of quality projects that are high value-added, skill intensive and capital intensive.

"We will also continue to improve the physical infrastructure of the country and encourage Malaysian and foreign research and development capabilities."

Rafidah also called on public utility bodies such as Tenaga Nasional [National Energy Board] and the Waterworks Department to make adequate provisions for future demand from investors.

"Formerly, they were conservative in their estimates but now they must plan not only for a five-year period but beyond that.

"The recent power blackout which resulted in millions in losses for industry should not recur. We do not tolerate such losses."

She suggested that Tenaga Nasional separate its domestic consumer problems from that of industrial

consumers as the latter were subject to greater losses in the event of a power failure.

On the proposed China Steel project she said the door was still open to the company to team up for the project with its Malaysian partner, the Lion Group.

"Both countries are going to sign an investment guarantee agreement (IGA) next month so there should be no excuses. "Certain political problems relating to China Steel have to be got rid off. I believe there are many other parties who are interested in the project."

Singapore

Daily Views Miyazawa's Southeast Asian Tour

BK1701061893 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Jan 93 p 34

[Editorial: "Would Japan Act Mature?"]

[Text] It used to be that Japanese prime ministers who visited Southeast Asia were known as moneybags as they came primarily to hand out largesse and impressive-sounding "technical assistance" of one kind or another. They also were accustomed to drawing anger over wartime bestialities for which this region bears deep scars. Behind the diplomatese, everybody knew these trips accomplished little. The visit of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, who has been to Indonesia and Malaysia and is now in Thailand to be followed by Brunei, sees a generational change from that patron-supplicant relationship. The hosts do not cringe now nor do they stick out a hand. They talk rather about equitable trade, security, regional networking (Dr. Mahathir Mohamed), or conveying the concerns of nonaligned countries to the Group of Seven [G-7] meeting which Japan is next to hold (President Suharto). The change of outlook befits a region which, in Mr Miyazawa's own words, is "the brightest spot in the world economy as the 21st century approaches." In Bangkok today, Mr. Miyazawa is to present Japan's new policy on Asia. And about time. The ending of the cold war apart, this acknowledges Southeast Asia's much improved station and takes note of geopolitical change in East Asia where a Russia-China-Japan linkage founded on economic potential is beginning to emerge. That needs a broad new vision and fresh ideas on how to revitalise old relationships.

Advance billing of what the Japanese media calls the Miyazawa doctrine suggests it would be based on Tokyo taking a far more active diplomatic role and leading efforts to build a security and free trade framework which would stay relevant into the early decades of the new century. The rebuilding of Indochina is also signalled. If this is borne out, it would answer in part the G-7's urging that Japan make its wealth and status tell. The United States has its own wish list for Tokyo: promote democracy and human rights in repressed regions, control the spread of nuclear weaponry (North Korea, for starters), do something about drugs, refugees and the environment. All worthy, high-minded causes which, in time, more Asian countries would have to address.

For now, interest would centre on what the policy would deliver in two areas: security and economic expansion. Japan-and-security are to many Asian governments still an unwelcome mix. Wartime memories have not receded sufficiently after a half century of healing such as it is so the "trust thing" still gets in the way of an open relationship. While pressure needs constantly to be exerted on Japanese policy-makers to acknowledge the past—rewrite school history texts on the war years, say, and own up to the shame of the comfort women issue—it helps that Tokyo's position on security is that one, it has no wish to fill any military vacuum that may be created and two, it wants U.S. forces in Asia to stay.

In the economic sphere regional governments will be looking for leads on market opening. The NIKKEI weekly, a business newspaper, says the policy recommendations upon which the Miyazawa doctrine is constructed made no mention of increasing imports from this region where only oil exporters are in surplus with Japan. While investments can be expected to flow evenly in spite of the recession having hurt the overseas plans of many multinationals, it is in Japan's trading conduct that the "other Asia" will look for signs of good faith to help Southeast Asia on the path to fulfilment. Japan has a surplus of U.S. $50 billion (S [Singapore] $82.5 billion) with the U.S. and it is growing. All manner of fiscal and consumer-habit tinkering plus hot air from Congress have brought little change. Its Asian trading partners have less clout to extract concessions. But Mr. Miyazawa and his patrons in the Liberal Democratic Party know Southeast Asia would be a catch of enormous proportions in the next two decades. It hurts Japan if it is seen in these countries as being rapacious.

Cambodia

UNTAC, Akashi, 'Yuon Aggressors' Criticized

BK1501125193 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Jan 93

["News Analysis": "If Mr. Akashi and Other Chieftains of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia Have not Implemented the Paris 23 October 1991 Accord, Specifically the Accord's Key Provisions, They Do not Need To Talk about a Neutral Political Environment, Free and Fair General Elections, Measures To Suppress Violence and Political Terrorism, and the Issue of Peace in Cambodia"]

[Text] 1. Mr. Akashi, head of UNTAC [the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia], on 13 January grudgingly acknowledged and said that the current situation in Cambodia is not yet sufficiently politically neutral to hold free and fair elections.

II. Why did Mr. Akashi reluctantly say so? [passage indistinct]. Once (?UNTAC) said two million people had registered for the elections, but another time it said three or up to four million people had registered. Anyway, statements were made irresponsibly. And now Mr. Akashi has grudgingly acknowledged that a neutral political environment has not yet existed and conditions are not yet ripe for holding the elections. Why did he say so?

A. The Cambodian nation, the Cambodian national resistance forces, and the entire Cambodian people inside and outside the country have exposed Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains for not comprehensively implementing the Paris accord, especially for allowing the Supreme National Council [SNC] to have a role as the sole legitimate organization and source of power during the transitional period and for UNTAC to run and supervise the five ministries, controlling and verifying the withdrawal of the Vietnamese from Cambodia.

B. Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, on 13 and 14 December 1992 and on 7 January 1993 issued statements concluding that the situation in the country is very bad because Cambodia has lost its territorial integrity, independence, and sovereignty. The prince also claimed that the worsening situation has been caused by three groups of people, meaning the Yuon aggressors, the Yuon puppets, and UNTAC.

C. His Excellency Son Sann, chairman of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, has always openly opposed the Yuon aggressors, the Yuon puppets, and UNTAC chieftains who are unwilling to execute the Paris 23 October 1991 accord, especially UNTAC which has not controlled and verified the Yuon withdrawal, allowed the SNC to play its role, or supervised the five ministries.

D. Prince Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party, once expressed hope that UNTAC would implement the Paris accord, creating a neutral political and safe environment for various political parties, including the FUNCINPEC Party, to function normally and take part in free, correct, and fair UNTAC-supervised elections. However, each passing day the situation has become increasingly tense because murderous Yuon and puppet agents have destroyed the FUNCINPEC Party's offices and eliminated the party's officials in provinces one after the other. They have even gouged out the eye of a FUNCINPEC official in front of UNTAC police. UNTAC has pretended to ignore the cruel, savage, and fascist activities against the FUNCINPEC party and let the Yuon and puppets carry out the violent acts and assassinations at will. So this means UNTAC has politically colluded with the Yuon and puppets. Becoming impatient at this situation, Prince Norodom Ranariddh has constantly condemned the Yuon, puppets, and UNTAC, and has lately announced that he is no longer cooperating with UNTAC and the Yuon puppets.

E. Since the attack on Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen at their residence on 27 November 1992, Democratic Kampuchea [DK] has daily reaffirmed that it has at all times upheld the banner of the Paris 23 October 1991 accord in its struggle to make UNTAC and all parties involved correctly, meticulously, and fully implement the accord, especially the provisions allowing the SNC to have a role as the unique legitimate source of power in Cambodia, and requesting UNTAC to run and supervise the five major ministries and control and verify the Yuon withdrawal from Cambodia. This is to prevent the Yuon aggressors, puppets, and alliances inside and outside UNTAC from forging a new agreement with the aim of destroying the DK and the Cambodian national resistance forces and to deter the Yuon aggressors and their puppets from ruling over the Cambodian nation and people in collaboration with the alliances forever.

F. In the opinion of a number of countries, people, and personalities worldwide and according to the views of a significant number of people within UNTAC who have followed the Cambodian situation, those refusing to implement the Paris accord are the Yuon aggressors, the Yuon puppets, and the UNTAC chieftains, including Mr. Akashi, who is considered incompetent and incapable of assuming responsibility for the UN operation in Cambodia.

In sum, Mr. Akashi's grudging acknowledgement that Cambodia does not yet have a neutral political environment and the necessary conditions for organizing elections is prompted by the resistance forces' opposition to UNTAC, which has not executed the Paris accord, has intentionally kept the Yuon forces according to a scheme, and has maintained the Yuon puppets' regime as a (?force) for the alliances inside and outside UNTAC to crush the DK and the Cambodian national resistance forces, thereby eradicating the Cambodian nation, people, and race.

The entire Cambodian national resistance forces' unanimous and strong denunciation of the Yuon aggressors, the Yuon puppets, and the UNTAC chieftains, including Mr. Akashi himself, has motivated the latter to grudgingly declare that a neutral political environment does not yet exist in Cambodia and conditions are not yet ripe for organizing the elections.

III. People following the situation and facts in 1992 have been aware that the Yuon, the Yuon puppets, and the UNTAC chieftains have endlessly issued misleading statements. So now they ask whether the announcement by Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains that Cambodia does not yet have a neutral political environment and that conditions are not yet ready for the

organization of the elections is sincere, or is it only a strategy for temporarily shielding them so they will have time to continue their bad maneuvers to achieve the same strategic objective—that is, to avoid implementing the Paris accord and controlling and verifying the Yuon withdrawal, to deny the SNC its role, and to abstain from running the five ministries? Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains have also continued to carry out activities against the Cambodian national resistance forces, specifically the DK, so as to put pressure on the latter and the other resistance forces with the aim of preserving the old and new Yuon forces, maintaining and legalizing the Yuon puppets' regime, and allowing the alliances inside and outside UNTAC to join the Yuon aggressors and their puppets in occupying Cambodia and sharing benefits at the expense of the Cambodian nation and people.

The Cambodian nation and people as well as the Cambodian national resistance forces are not blind, deaf, or silly. They, however, are moderately experienced and do have good eyesight, good hearing, and fairly good brains. As for the peace-and justice-loving countries and people the world over, as well as several people within UNTAC, they are not dull and have never allowed themselves to be fooled in broad daylight by Mr. Akashi and the UNTAC leaders. They have called into question the following facts:

A. Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains have declared that they will take this or that measure to ease tension and to prevent violent attacks and assassinations against the staff or officials of various political parties;

B. Mr. Akashi and the UNTAC chieftains have announced that they will create this or that special court to try those who commit violent attacks and assassinations against the staff and officials of various political parties;

C. Mr. Akashi and the UNTAC chieftains have stated that the UNTAC police will give to the police of the so-called State of Cambodia [SOC] of the Yuon puppets the task of investigating and arresting those guilty of violence; and

D. Mr. Akashi and the UNTAC chieftains [words indistinct] those who engage in violent activities and assassinations against the staff and officials according to the law of the Yuon puppets' so-called SOC, and so on.

Hearing the measures announced by Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains, people mock them, and some have even madly screamed that Mr. Akashi and the UNTAC chieftains are shamelessly trying magic tricks to cheat in broad daylight. The people say the announced actions are only incremental; they are not the measures necessary for the full and correct implementation of the Paris 23 October 1991 accord.

Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains themselves have also realized this but they have indiscriminately, brutally, and shamelessly adopted those measures. And although they clearly know that the people will denounce or deride their unnecessary actions as unreasonable, illogical, incorrect, and ineffective, Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains need to announce and adopt them, because these actions are part of their strategy and policy of denying implementation of the Paris accord. This means that Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains have adopted a strategic policy of rejecting implementation of the Paris 23 October 1991 accord, and are executing an altered one-party agreement to further preserve the Yuon puppet regime and the Yuon in Cambodia as a force for the alliances inside and outside UNTAC to jointly occupy Cambodia, destroy the Cambodian national resistance forces, and eradicate the Cambodian people and race.

Through this strategic objective, everyone has clearly seen that:

1. Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains do not want UNTAC to control and verify the withdrawal of Yuon aggressors from Cambodia. They are opposed to those who demand the application of Article 1, Chapter C, Annex 2 demanding that UNTAC control and verify the withdrawal from Cambodia of all categories of Yuon forces. In addition, Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains have also clamorously and repeatedly declared that there is no Yuon presence in Cambodia.

2. Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains have not given the SNC the role of being the sole legitimate organization and source of power during the transitional period.

3. Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains have not run the five ministries, as the accord emphatically stipulates.

While they have not comprehensively implemented the Paris accord, especially the above three basic key provisions, Mr. Akashi and the UNTAC chieftains have instead painstakingly asked that:

a. the second phase be allowed to begin; they have particularly asked the DK to enter the second phase with the aim of cutting the DK's limbs then destroying the DK, thereby decimating the Cambodian nation, people, and race once and for all.

b. Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains have done nothing but loudly bark that the elections will be organized in this or that way and that they are very happy that the number of registered voters has reached four million and is increasing every day.

The general public or commoners have also clearly seen the ugliness of Mr. Akashi and of the other UNTAC chieftains as they have not controlled and verified the Yuon presence, have not run the five ministries, and have not given a role to the SNC, but have instead continued to maintain both the old and new Yuon forces and preserved the Yuon puppet regime. Moreover, Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains have made

decisions alone with their arrogant and disorderly gestures and have shared the Yuon's ideas, policies, and activities [words indistinct]. Given this situation, the Yuon aggressors and their puppets can act at will. For example:

i. They continue to carry out small, medium, and large-scale offensive attacks to massacre the people and destroy the people's and nation's property.

ii. The Yuon and puppets, through their special soldiers, police, and murderous secret groups, have fomented constant insecurity and bullied, oppressed, persecuted, arrested, and secretly or openly assassinated the people and members of various political parties.

IV. In sum:

A. The general public has clearly seen the evil nature of the Yuon and their puppets and that of the other UNTAC chieftains via their concrete actions between the end of 1991 and the end of 1992.

B. The general public has clearly seen that the old and new Yuon are staying in, occupying, and swallowing up Cambodia daily, step by step and that Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains have turned a blind eye to and endorsed their actions according to their joint strategic scheme.

C. The general public has seen and blocked hundreds of measures taken by Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains in 1992. In other words, whenever the struggle and opposition of the Cambodian resistance forces, nation, and people have become more vigorous, Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains have publicly announced that UNTAC will take this or that action to curb violence, insuring security for the people and various political parties. In fact, those actions are incremental and unnecessary and are simply announced to fool the people, but are never put into action.

D. The general public, even the children, have clearly known, heard, and realized that if Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains do not control and verify the withdrawal of the Yuon aggressors from Cambodia; if the old and new Yuon forces are everywhere in Cambodia; if Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains do not allow the SNC to be the unique legitimate organization and source of power during the transition and do not run and control the five ministries; and if Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains let the Yuon puppet regime and the Yuon aggressors remain the rulers in Cambodia, the Yuon aggressor troops and the Yuon civilians—who keep flowing incessantly into the country—will continue to stay and the Yuon and puppet troops and the secret and plainclothes Yuon and puppet police will continue to suppress the people and various political parties at will.

So then how bad will the security situation in Phnom Penh and the provinces be and how neutral will the political environment become? Will it be possible for the proper political environment to be created? And will it then be possible to hold the elections freely, democratically, correctly, and justly in conformity with the principle of the accord?

In particular, the general public wonders this: If Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains do not implement the Paris 23 October 1991 accord, can aspirin tablets be used to cure the cancer of the Yuon and their puppets in Cambodia?

Through these issues, people have already seen and come to understand and know the true nature of Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains in the past year. They have also seen the danger, constantly posed by the old and new Yuon and the puppets, that has threatened the survival of the Cambodian nation and people and that of various political parties in the 13-year military war and in the political and diplomatic war of more than one year concerning the issue of whether or not the Paris 23 October accord will be implemented.

The general public (?does not believe) this or that measure pretendedly announced by Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains. The general public is well aware that the Cambodian nation and people and the Cambodian national resistance forces as well as the peace- and justice-loving people worldwide and many people within UNTAC want Mr. Akashi and other UNTAC chieftains to correctly and comprehensively implement the Paris 23 October 1991 accord, especially the provisions on control and verification of the Yuon withdrawal from Cambodia, the SNC having a role as the sole legitimate organization and source of power during the transitional period, with UNTAC running the five ministries. Only by executing these clauses can security and a neutral political environment be established in Cambodia, thereby creating favorable conditions for organizing general elections to choose a genuine Cambodian national assembly and government and allowing Cambodia to wrest back peace within its independent, sovereign, and territorial boundaries. This will also enable Cambodia to become an independent and neutral country free from foreign occupation and interference in its internal affairs, thereby restoring security, peace, and stability in Southeast Asia and Asia as a whole.

Nonetheless, if Mr. Akashi and the other UNTAC chieftains as well as the alliances inside and outside UNTAC continue to trample on the Paris 23 October 1991 accord, persist in executing the accord in favor of the Yuon puppets' party and in preserving the old and new Yuon forces, and do not give the SNC any role, and do not run the five ministries, they need never talk about a neutral political environment, about measures to curb violent, fascist, and terrorist acts and assassinations against the Cambodian people and various political parties, or about the organization of elections and the issue of peace in Cambodia.

These are the explicit prerequisites imposed by the plaintiff on the accused during the period between the end of 1992 and the beginning of 1993.

Ranariddh's Attack Accusations Said Baseless

BK1601144993 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 16 Jan 93

["Denial"; dated 16 January—read by announcer]

[Text] Along with the Khmer Rouge's recent terrorist acts and armed attacks against the people and a number of offices, some newspapers have publicized a statement issued by Prince Ranariddh in order to pollute a neutral environment, which is a hot issue at present; get rid of the peace accord, which constitutes the lifeline of the Cambodian people; and put the blame on the State of Cambodia [SOC] side and the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, or UNTAC.

Prince Rarariddh has made baseless accusations against the leadership of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and the SOC Government. The Cambodian press agency, SPK, is authorized by the government to reject Prince Ranariddh's allegations and to regard them as an instigation to contaminate the environment and irresponsible and ill-intended acts.

Given the situation, Prince Ranariddh should legally cooperate with UNTAC or the incumbent authorities to investigate and gather evidence so as to send to the court [the culprits] that the prince has claimed to distinctly recognize. On the contrary, the prince has resorted to slander in an apolitical manner by naming, blaming, and discrediting the CPP leaders as publicized by Bangkok-based AFP on 10 January 1993.

As a law graduate and lecturer, Prince Ranariddh, through his fallacious statements and actions aimed at placing the blame on others, should be aware of his legal responsibility to the law, which is not the AK-47s against AK-47s law that he is advocating.

As a host party, the CPP and SOC have no reason or interest whatsoever to commit base and [word indistinct] actions.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 16 January 1993.

NADK 16 Jan 'Communique' Updates Fighting

BK1801092193 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 17 Jan 93

["Communique" issued by an unidentified National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK) spokesman on 16 January—read by announcer]

[Text] I. Report on NADK actions to oppose the offensives of the Yuon [Vietnamese] and puppets on the Battambang battlefield:

The NADK spokesman would like to report on NADK actions to oppose the offensives of the Yuon and their puppets, with the assistance of UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] leaders, to take the Pailin area. These statistics were compiled over a 15-day period, from 1 to 15 January 1993.

The NADK's activities to oppose the forces of the Yuon and puppets on the battlefields on Route 10 and in Bavel:

A. We killed or wounded 97 on the Route 10 battlefield and 62 on the Bavel battlefield;

B. On the Route 10 and Bavel battlefields, we captured 102 Phnom Penh soldiers alive, including commanding officers and troops; and four Vietnamese soldiers, including a two-star and a one-star officer [rank as heard] and two junior officers. These four Vietnamese soldiers were operators and technicians of T-54 tanks.

C. Over 400 Cambodian soldiers have deserted; groups of 10 and 20 soldiers have since then been deserting almost daily.

D. We destroyed or damaged five armored vehicles of various types on the Route 10 battlefield and two on the Bavel battlefield.

E. We destroyed or damaged three batteries of artillery and multiple rocket launchers on the Route 10 battlefield and one battery on the Bavel battlefield.

F. We destroyed or damaged six military transport trucks on the Route 10 battlefield and five on the Bavel battlefield.

G. We seized 85 assorted weapons on the Route 10 battlefield and 56 on the Bavel battlefield.

H. We seized 16 gas masks; we also seized three cans of poison with labels written in Russian and so on.

Fighting continues to this day because the Yuon and puppets continue to dispatch reinforcements to the Route 10 and Bavel battlefields.

II. On the Yuon and puppet forces' launching of offensives on the Route 10 and Bavel battlefields:

The troops of the Yuon and puppets launching offensives on the Route 10 and Bavel battlefields to retake Pailin are comprised of old troops already there and new ones who have been successively brought in from the east.

It is to be noted that these old and new Yuon and puppet troops have been identified by the NADK itself during direct fighting, particularly through internal radio communications among the Yuon and puppet troops. More importantly, the NADK clearly knows about all this through captured Vietnamese soldiers and puppet commanders and troops. Following are units of old Yuon and puppet troops already in Battambang:

A. Divisions 4 and 196 and Brigades 92 and 95 are on the Route 10 battlefield. These puppet troops are under the command of the 5th Military Region in Battambang. Among the new soldiers of the puppet troops brought in from the east, some are from Brigade 94 stationed in Pursat and two regiments are from Division 7 of the 3d Military Region stationed in Chaom Chau and Kompong Speu and the provincial troops of Takeo, Kompong Speu, Kandal, Prey Veng, and Svay Rieng. Furthermore, old and new troops have also been successively brought in from the east to reinforce Divisions 196 and 4.

Both old and new Yuon troops have been deployed. The old ones comprise commanding officers and troops who used to be stationed on the Route 10 battlefield from Yuon Divisions 4, 309, and 330. The remaining Yuon troops have become commanding officers and are in charge of technical operations of tanks, artillery pieces, and multiple rocket launchers in puppet Divisions 196 and 4. The total number of these Vietnamese troops is 400, excluding the Yuon officers and troops stationed in Battambang town. There were three dispatches of a total of over 600 new Yuon troops to the Route 10 battlefield. The majority of these troops are operators, drivers, and tank technicians who man heavy artillery pieces and multiple rocket launchers and radio communications specialists liaising with the battlefields in Battambang and Phnom Penh and Ho Chi Minh City.

It is these Vietnamese commanding officers who have the right to decide and ask for Yuon troops, tanks, heavy artillery pieces, and multiple rocket launchers. They are in charge of Vietnamese forces operating in Cambodia.

B. The Bavel and Mongkolborei River battlefields:

The following are puppet troops: Division 6 under the 4th Military Region in Siem Reap and a regiment of Division 179 based near Preah Net Preah, which is part of the 4th Military Region. New troops—in groups of 100, 200, or 300—have been successively brought in as replacements and reinforcement. The majority of these new troops were brought in from the east. Most of them are new recruits from provinces and from village, commune, and district militia forces.

There are 700 new Vietnamese troops on the Bavel battlefield brought in from the east. In sum, the Yuon forces on the Route 10 and Bavel battlefields are mixed troops selected from the Yuon's 5th, 7th, and 9th Military Regions.

III. Who is responsible for the fighting on the battlefields in Battambang, on Route 10, and in Bavel?

On this question, people inside and outside the country, even many persons within UNTAC, immediately reply that those responsible for the fighting on the battlefield in Battambang and other battlefields throughout Cambodia in early 1993—during the 13 years from 1979 to 1991 and in 1992—are the Yuon aggressors, territorial expansionists and annexationists, and Cambodian race exterminators, and the puppets the Yuon have installed to use as their tool of aggression militarily, politically, and diplomatically. Since the end of 1991, when the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement was signed, those responsible for the current and past battles are those who have not implemented the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement; those who have not allowed any role for the Supreme National Council [SNC]; and those who have not controlled the five ministries—the Ministries of National Defense, Interior and Security, Foreign Affairs, Finance, and Information. It is those people who oppose verification of the withdrawal of all types of Yuon aggressor forces from Cambodia. It is those people who have legitimized the continued presence of old and new Yuon forces in Cambodia and who have allowed the Yuon forces to continue flowing into Cambodia until there are now over 2,000,000 of them. Over 1,000,000 of these Yuon already possess Cambodian indentity cards and have been registered for the elections by UNTAC.

In fact, those responsible for the current fighting on the battlefield in Battambang and fighting in other places throughout Cambodia and those responsible for continuation of the Yuon's war of aggression following the 23 October 1991 Paris agrement are the Yuon aggressors, territorial expansionists and annexationists, Cambodian race exterminators, the puppets who are out-and-out lackeys of the Yuon, and UNTAC leaders who oppose and trample on the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement.

Concerning these people who are responsible for the fighting on various battlefields in Cambodia and continuation of the Yuon's war of aggression, His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, has clearly said in many of his statements at the end of 1992 and in early 1993—particularly the ones dated 13 and 14 December 1992 and 7 January 1993, and the message from His Excellency Son Sann to Akashi dated 21 December 1992—that Akashi has not implemented the Paris agreement. These documents have also clearly identified those responsible for the bad situation in Cambodia at present.

Prince Norodom Ranariddh, in his message dated 5 January 1993, also clearly mentioned by name Chea Sim, Hun Sen, Sar Kheng, Sin Song, and (?Ung Sami)—those responsible for political terrorism and fascist activities and the murders of people from various parties, particularly people from the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC] party. UNTAC leaders have done nothing about these fascist activities and political terrorism. Prince Norodom Ranariddh has also mentioned these puppet leaders by name. This means that the named persons are lackeys of the Yuon; they are out-and-out lackeys who have sold out the nation to the Yuon, served the Yuon aggressors, and murdered their own nation and people over the past 14 years.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, has identified those bad elements who have deprived the Cambodian nation and people of unity,

peace, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity and have put Cambodia in an atmosphere of terrorism, fascism, and complete darkness in 1992 and at the beginning of 1993. Those responsible for all this are the Yuon, their puppets, and UNTAC. This is the unanimous conclusion and judgment of the Cambodian nation and people and all the Cambodian national resistance forces.

IV. What should be done to resolve fighting on the battlefield in Battambang and the offensives of the Yuon and puppets on other battlefields?

Concerning the fighting in Battambang and other places and big and small events that have successively taken place at the end of 1992 and in early 1993, Akashi and other UNTAC leaders have taken this or that measure—measures which, in fact, (?solve nothing) and are deceitful propaganda measures, the purpose of which is to dupe others and escape trouble from time to time. Akashi, UNTAC leaders, and the Yuon aggressors and their puppets have never said a word about the role of the SNC as the legitimate and sole source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period. Not a word has been said about UNTAC cooperating with the SNC to control the five ministries. Not a word has been said about UNTAC working with the SNC to verify the withdrawal from Cambodia of all types of Yuon aggressor forces.

On the contrary, Akashi, UNTAC leaders, and the Yuon aggressors and their puppets have continued to say that there are no Yuon and have adopted laws to protect the Yuon and allow them to vote, while shutting up the SNC for over a year. UNTAC has not cooperated with the SNC at all to control the five ministries. UNTAC has allowed the Yuon aggressors and their puppets to do whatever they like through all kinds of terrorist and fascist activities against people and against various political parties. Loud noises have been constantly and shamelessly made to accuse Cambodian national resistance forces and Democratic Kampuchea [DK].

This maneuver has become a reflex action of the Yuon aggressors and their puppets and of UNTAC leaders. That is, whenever something happens, they immediately shout in defense of the Yuon and puppets and accuse the DK to dupe local and foreign opinion. However, the Cambodian nation and people, the Cambodian national resistance forces, and peace- and justice-loving countries and people the world over are quite capable of distinguishing good and bad, right and wrong, aggressors and victims of aggression, and those opposing and trampling on the Paris agreement and those supporting and implementing it.

This was clearly summed up in a couple of sentences by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, in his 13 and 14 December 1992 statements and in his 7 January 1993 message.

Now, let us ask this question: How can fighting be ended in Battambang and the offensives of the Yuon and their puppets in other places, past events, and other things be resolved to definitively end these problems?

The Cambodian nation, people, Cambodian national resistance forces, and peace- and justice-loving countries and people the world over have again and again demanded and repeatedly requested that the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement be correctly, meticulously, and comprehensively implemented, particularly the following main points:

1. A role must be given to the SNC so it can carry out its task as the legitimate and sole source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period;

2. UNTAC and the SNC must cooperate in verifying that all Yuon aggressor forces are withdrawn from Cambodia; and

3. UNTAC and the SNC must cooperate in controlling the five ministries.

Furthermore, to end the fighting on the battlefield in Battambang, which has resulted from the premeditated and systematic plans of the Yuon aggresors and their puppets, and with the assistance of UNTAC leaders, the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK]—and this is also the request of the Cambodian nation, people, and national resistance forces—we would like to request:

1. The immediate establishment of a qudripartite Cambodian police force in all districts in Battambang Province and in Battambang town. This quadripartite Cambodian police force must closely cooperate with UNTAC police and have the task of restoring order in all districts in Battambang Province and in Battambang town. Only with the quadripartite Cambodian police force cooperating with UNTAC police can there be a four-party Cambodian force and UNTAC, which represents the United Nations, working together to restore order in all villages, communes, and districts in Battambang Province and Battambang town.

2. The establishment of quadripartite Cambodian military groups cooperating with UNTAC and being stationed in all districts in Battambang Province and in Battambang town. The four-party Cambodian military groups and UNTAC will work together to create conditions to prevent small, medium-sized, and big battles throughout Battambang Province.

The PDK, like the Cambodian nation and people and the entire Cambodian national resistance forces and peace- and justice-loving countries and people the world over, holds that these proposals represent the most sincere goodwill for resolving the issue of fighting and other big or small matters in order to put a definitive end to these problems.

These proposals of sincere goodwill are made by the PDK in the hope that various parties involved in the Cambodian problem and the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement, including the SRV, the Phnom Penh side, and UNTAC—if they have the goodwill to end big and

small battles and big and small matters—would certainly agree to the PDK's above two proposals for Battambang Province. This is the first basic step in preparing and expanding conditions for successively restoring order in other districts and provinces throughout the country.

[Dated] 16 January 1993
[Signed] NADK spokesman

Akashi Encouraged by ASEAN Poll Support

BK1601110993 Hong Kong AFP in English 1036 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Excerpts] Phnom Penh, Jan 16 (AFP)—U.N. Cambodia chief Yasushi Akashi on Saturday said a move by ASEAN to throw its support behind a proposal for presidential polls in Cambodia ahead of general elections was "very important" to the peace process.

"The countries of ASEAN published a very important statement on the peace process in Cambodia yesterday (Friday)," said Akashi, chief of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

However, Akashi said, before leaving for Bangkok to complete his tour of four ASEAN member states, that a decision on the date for presidential elections, which are not a condition under the October 1991 peace plan signed in Paris that ended the Cambodian civil war, was up to the U.N. Security Council.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who chairs Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC) which groups the country's four main factions, has demanded that presidential polls be held before general elections scheduled for May.

Sihanouk has also announced his candidacy for the presidency. [passage omitted covered by item filed as ref one]

Akashi meanwhile will go to Bangkok to meet Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, who announced he favoured the idea of holding presidential elections and proposed a conference on development in Indochina to be held in Japan.

He will also meet Prasong.

After his meetings in the Thai capital, Akashi is to go to Jakarta to hold talks with Alatas on Sunday.

Four UN Personnel Captured by Khmer Rouge

UN Negotiating for Release

BK1801034693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0328 GMT 18 Jan 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Jan 18 (AFP)—The United Nations continued negotiations Monday for the release of four U.N. personnel being held by the Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction, a U.N. official said here, adding that they were "not hostages."

"We are still negotiating within the Joint Military Working Group in Phnom Penh for the liberation of these men," seized in central Cambodia on Sunday, added the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) spokesman.

However, the official stressed that the four—a British naval officer, a Royal Marines NCO, a Chilean naval officer and a Cambodian interpreter—"are not hostages," as the Khmer Rouge detaining them had given assurances they would be released as soon as an order was received from the guerrilla commanders.

The JMWG is a military body under UNTAC grouping representatives of the Phnom Penh government and the three rebel factions, including the Khmer Rouge.

The UNTAC official said the group "went into the zone for the first time Saturday for a meeting with the local (Khmer Rouge) commander set up several days earlier.

"Not being able to meet him, they returned Sunday and it was then that they were arrested."

The Khmer Rouge have recently multiplied their seizures of UNTAC personnel, especially in the region of Kompong Thom, a strategically important town in central Cambodia.

The four UNTAC personnel were seized Sunday about 30 kilometres (19 miles) west of Kompong Thom, the UNTAC official said.

Khmer Rouge 'Not Responding'

BK1801082093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0749 GMT 18 Jan 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Jan 18 (AFP)—Khmer Rouge leaders were not responding to the United Nations' request to free four U.N. peacekeepers taken captive in central Cambodia and held for more than a day, a U.N. spokesman said Monday.

Radio contact with the two Britons, one Chilean and a Cambodian interpreter indicated they had not been harmed and were "busy trying to teach English to their captors," spokesman Eric Falt said.

The incident was the sixth captive or hostage-taking by the Khmer Rouge within two months.

The four unarmed men were seized on Sunday along the Stoeng Sen River in central Kompong Thom, and were taken to almost exactly the same place where six U.N. hostages were taken on December 1.

The United Nations did not consider the latest group hostages because the guerrillas who captured them said the four would be released as soon as the order from the Khmer Rouge leadership was given.

However, Falt said, "so far we have been unable to get a response from the NADK as to why these men were detained and when they will be released."

The NADK is the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea, or Khmer Rouge.

The U.N. peacekeeping mission headquarters in Phnom Penh was continuing to attempt to negotiate their release through the Mixed Military Working Group (MMWG), he said.

The MMWG groups generals from Cambodia's four warring factions, including the Khmer Rouge, under U.N. supervision.

The four were being held by 10 to 15 armed Khmer Rouge guerrillas 25 kilometers (16 miles) west of the provincial capital, Falt said.

The banks of the Stoeng Sen River are heavily mined, and Kompong Thom Province—at the strategic heart of the country—is the most heavily contested area in Cambodia.

The four peacekeepers had been down the river on Saturday for a pre-arranged meeting with the Khmer Rouge local commander, who was not there when the peacekeepers arrived, Falt said.

In order to go home Saturday night, the group had to leave a two- way radio behind. When they returned Sunday morning, they were refused permission to leave and then transferred to a second location, Falt said.

The peacekeepers have enough food, water and radio batteries for several days, he said.

The Britons were identified as a Navy lieutenant commander and a Royal Marines sergeant and the Chilean as a naval lieutenant, but their names were not released.

Khmer Rouge Release Personnel

BK1901082093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0812 GMT 19 Jan 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Jan 19 (AFP)—The Khmer Rouge Tuesday freed four United Nations peacekeepers they had held for three days in central Cambodia, a U.N. spokesman said here.

The two Britons, one Chilean and a Cambodian interpreter were unharmed after being detained since Sunday, he said.

KR Given 10 Days To Declare Poll Decision

BK1801072693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0706 GMT 18 Jan 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Jan 18 (AFP)—The radical Khmer Rouge [KR] have 10 days to decide whether to take part in Cambodia's U.N.-run elections or the polls will go on without them, a U.N. spokesman said Monday.

By January 27—one day before a scheduled meeting of the Supreme National Council (SNC) in Beijing—all of the parties contesting in the elections must have completed registration or they will not be allowed to participate, U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said.

All parties must supply the United Nations with signatures of 5,000 registered voters and lists of candidates contesting from each of Cambodia's 21 provinces, he said.

The United Nations has notified more than 20 provisionally registered political parties of the requirement, he said.

The Khmer Rouge have not cooperated with U.N. attempts to get them to register. Although they declared the formation of a political party last year, they have not registered it with the United Nations.

So far, 4.54 million Cambodians have registered to vote in the elections, to be held before May in accordance with the 1991 U.N. peace plan ending the country's civil war.

The registration period ends January 31, although an exception will be made for refugees returning from camps on the Thai border. U.N. officials there have begun making lists of people who will register to vote after the cut-off date, Falt said.

The number of seats in the country's newly elected parliament will be determined after all voters have registered, but so far the Khmer Rouge have not allowed U.N. teams to register voters in many areas they control.

They took four more U.N. peacekeepers captive over the weekend, the sixth such incident in two months, and were still holding them Monday.

The SNC groups Cambodia's four warring factions under U.N. supervision and the chairmanship of Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Meanwhile Prince Sihanouk has said he wants to assume all powers now held by the United Nations in the country if he wins proposed presidential elections. The SNC's powers are much more limited than those of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

"If one day I am elected to the presidency of Cambodia, I will assume in place of Yasushi Akashi and UNTAC all the powers that the head of a sovereign state has the right and duty to exercise," the prince said in a letter sent

Friday to the U.S. Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger. The letter was sent from Beijing, where the prince is receiving medical treatment, but made public by the royal palace in Phnom Penh.

Akashi currently heads UNTAC which is responsible for the implementation of the peace accords signed in October 1991 in Paris.

Sihanouk requested, and seems likely to get, from the United Nations a presidential election before the legislative elections. The date of the presidential election, which was not part of the original peace plan, is expected to be set soon by the U.N. Security Council.

The prince, who is certain to win a presidential poll, also said in his letter he would do everything "to stop the pillage, the physical occupation and economic exploitation" of Cambodia by foreigners.

Sihanouk Opposes Sanctions Against KR

HK1901053893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0531 GMT 19 Jan 93

[Text] Beijing, 19 (AFP)—Prince Nordom Sihanouk has stressed his opposition to the use of sanctions to try to force the Khmer Rouge [KR] to cooperate with Cambodia's peace plan, according to a statement released here Tuesday.

"Such sanctions are unrealistic and totally ineffective and only serve to harden the Khmer Rouge position further," the statement quoted Shihanouk, who is here for medical streatment, as saying in remarks after meeting Monday with Thai Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri.

The prince said sanctions would widen the gulf between the Khmer Rouge and the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), as well as the one between the hardline Marxist faction and the Vietnam-installed Phnom Penh Government.

The price said "after my possible election by the people to the Cambodian presidency, I will hold talks with the Party of Democratic Kampuchea (PDK, or Khmer Rouge) and the state of Cambodia (the Phnom Penh government) in order to avoid clashes between them and bring the PDK back to the heart of our national community."

Nevertheless, he acknowledged he had not yet "found any way to make the PDK soften its position."

The chairman of the Supreme National Council that groups Cambodia's four opposing factions is pushing for presidential elections to be held before the U.N.-backed general elections scheduled for May, and plans to stand as a candidate.

The Khmer Rouge are refusing to disarm or to allow UNTAC personnel to enter zones under their control, mainly along the border with Thailand, to register the population for the general elections.

The U.N. Security Council has resolved UNTAC might have to leave the Khmer Rouge off the ballot if they do not declare their intention to cooperate before January 31.

Sihanouk also said any new president could only resolve the problem of Vietnamese in Cambodia through negotiations with Hanoi, which overthrew the Khmer Rouge and installed its own government, in 1978.

Anti-Vietnamese feeling is rising among Cambodians, with the Khmer Rouge claiming Vietnamese troops remain in Cambodia as attacks increase on ethnic Vietnamese living in the country. Hanoi says all its forces have been withdrawn.

Khmer Rouge Said To Guard UN's Pailin Office

BK1901095793 Hong Kong AFP in English 0944 GMT 19 Jan 93

[Excerpts] Phnom Penh, Jan 19 (AFP)—The Khmer Rouge released four UN peacekeepers held captive for the third day Tuesday, but the United Nations revealed that elsewhere guerrillas had been posted outside its office at the faction's headquarters in Pailin.

The two Britons, one Chilean and their Cambodian interpreter, were released unharmed at 2 P.M. after being detained Sunday morning along the mined Stoeung Sen River in central Cambodia, UN spokesman Eric Falt said without giving details.

In the Khmer Rouge gem mining town of Pailin, it was unclear whether the 12 peacekeepers posted there were free to leave their building, Falt said.

"UN activities in Pailin have been progressively curtailed over the last two weeks," he said, adding that Khmer Rouge guerrillas have refused permission for UN resupply flights over their territory to the men stationed in Pailin. Supplies must be driven in by road, he said.

"It's not like there's a standoff or anything. It's just that there's a situation where people have limited freedom of movement," Falt said. "It's getting a little more tense and certainly the placing of armed sentries right outside the house contributes to added tension."

Khmer Rouge soldiers have confronted UN peacekeepers "in a rather hostile fashion" on several occasions in Pailin, Falt said, and once temporarily detained an American peacekeeper the Khmer Rouge accused of spying.

In a separate incident near the border with Vietnam, at least eight peacekeepers were held overnight by Khmer Rouge guerrillas in Kompong Cham Province.

The group, including UN civilian police, electoral officers, Cambodian interpreters and UN military observers, had gone to a prearranged meeting Monday with the Khmer Rouge, Falt said.

They were not allowed to leave until Tuesday morning after surrendering their "personal items," he said.

The Cambodians in the group had their identification cards confiscated, Falt said. [passage omitted]

The United Nations did not consider the latest group hostages because the guerrillas who captured them said the four would be released as soon as the order from the Khmer Rouge leadership was given, Falt said.

They passed the time by teaching English to their captors and had enough food and water for several days, he said.

The four were held by 10 to 15 armed guerrillas 25 kilometers (16 miles) west of the provincial capital, he said.

The banks of the Stoeung Sen River are heavily mined, and Kompong Thom Province—at the strategic heart of the country—is the most fiercely contested area in Cambodia.

The four peacekeepers had been down the river on Saturday for a pre-arranged meeting with the Khmer Rouge local commander, who was not there when the peacekeepers arrived, Falt said.

In order to go home Saturday night, the group had to leave a two-way radio and their watches behind, UN sources said.

When they returned Sunday morning, they were refused permission to leave and then transferred to a second location, Falt said.

The previous group of peacekeepers captured in the same area also gave the guerrillas their watches.

French President Mitterrand Plans Feb Visit

BK1601141493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1120 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Jan 16 (AFP)—French President Francois Mitterrand will visit Cambodia for several hours on February 11, an official Cambodian source said Saturday.

Mitterrand will stop over in Phnom Penh after a two-day official visit to neighboring Vietnam, the source said, requesting anonymity.

During his stopover he is expected to discuss the Cambodian peace process with Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who is currently undergoing medical treatment in Beijing, the source said.

France, the former European colonial power in Cambodia and Vietnam, is with Indonesia co-chair of the Paris conference on Cambodia, which has brought about the current U.N.-administered peace plan.

Indonesia

Suharto, Alatas Comment on U.S. Air Strike on Iraq

BK1601082693 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0716 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 16 (OANA/ANTARA)—President Suharto has expressed the hope that the heated situation of the Middle East would abate soon and the world peace and order would be maintained.

The head of state made the remarks when receiving the credentials of the new Saudi Arabian Ambassador to Indonesia, Abdullah Abdul Rahman Alim, at the Merdeka Palace on Saturday morning.

President Suharto said in his speech that world peace is needed in carrying out development. Touching on bilateral relations, he said that economic and trade volumes between the two countries could be further increased in the years to come.

As developing countries fighting for the creation of a better world, peace, justice and welfare, both nations are adhered to common ideals, aspirations and struggle.

President Suharto on the occasion also received the credentials of Ambassador Dzinga: Vhasura Vhigiga of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

He said in his return speech that being members of the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement [NAM], Indonesia and Zimbabwe were committed to fight ardently for the materialization of the decisions made during the 10th NAM summit held here in 1992.

We are aware that the time has arrived now for the south nations to work hard, to jointly build up a force and develop cooperation in all fields in order to respond to challenges and make use of available prospects, the president said.

President Suharto availed himself of the occasion to convey his thanks for the feelings of sympathy shown by the people and government of Zimbabwe following the natural disaster that hit East Nusatenggara province on December 12 1992.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said on Friday that Indonesia is concerned over the military action taken by the United States against Iraq. He said that the developments taking place so far have reached a very difficult stage that led to the military action.

We are of the view that this problem should be solved through dialogues with the available channel, namely the United Nations, Alatas was quoted as saying by REPUBLIKA daily newspaper.

According to the minister, the acts of the Iraqi leaders of late, against Kuwait for example, have created impressions of fear among its neighbouring countries.

The government hoped that the use of force will be stopped and the conflict will be solved through dialogues, the minister said.

Dailies View Air Strike

BK1601095593 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 16 Jan 93

[From the press review]

[Text] REPUBLIKA says the limited attack against targets in southern Iraq by several allied fighter jets on Wednesday night is a manifestation of the allied forces' growing frustration, especially after Iraq's defiance of the multinational forces' warnings and mobilization of hundreds of its civilian security forces to penetrate Kuwaiti territory. Iraq had earlier infuriated the allied forces by deploying its missiles as if it was ready to shoot down any allied aircraft patrolling the area.

Meanwhile, JAYAKARTA deeply regrets the Allied forces' attack despite whatever excuses they may have given. It is a relief to know, however, that despite the death of several Iraqis, there is no counterattack which may have led to an open war. This daily says the next step to watch is whether the United Nations and the allied forces will look at the Iraqi problem as a separate issue detached from Saddam Husayn's personal ambition. The United States must not mix its anti-Saddam political interests and efforts to create peace in the Gulf.

BERITA YUDHA wonders why the United States enjoys attacking Iraq, while ignoring the Bosnian issue and Israel's atrocities. Many Middle East countries have expressed their amazement over the U.S. inaction against the Serbs and Israelis. The daily believes that Saddam Husayn is now having the upper hand with many Arab countries refusing to extend their full support to the Allied forces, while the United States is having problems with its plan to consolidate its position in the Middle East.

Yogyakarta-based KEDAULATAN RAKYAT says despite Iraq's weakness against the U.S. might, it will continue to be a threat to Kuwait. The U.S. air superiority cannot guarantee Kuwait's safety from Iraqi harassment because Iraqi land forces continue to penetrate the Kuwaiti territory on the pretext of retrieving

Minister Counters Pessimism on Clinton Trade Views

BK1901105893 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1000 GMT 19 Jan 93

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 19 (OANA/ANTARA)—Trade Minister Arifin Siregar said that Indonesian businessmen should not be pessimistic about U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton's economic policy.

I think President-elect Bill Clinton will focus policy more on human rights and environmental issues apart from its policy on strengthening the domestic economy, said the minister after delivering prizes to the winners of a writing contest on the 1992 Indonesian export exhibition here on Tuesday.

He assumed that Clinton will strengthen its policy on the development of macroeconomy and technology in order to increase domestic economy which has in the last ten years suffered from less product competitiveness compared with Japan's and European countries'.

The less competitiveness of America's products have also caused its market to be occupied by Japanese products. He said that Clinton's effort to narrow the country's ongoing transaction deficit and to boost industrial productivity growth will benefit Indonesia.

Some economic observers said that the U.S. has passed the long-term economic recession so that the new government will get a fresh economic atmosphere to accelerate the country's economic growth.

Minister Siregar said that Indonesia should not be pessimistic about Clinton's protectionist policy and the establishment of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) which consists of the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

A country will prefer to be protectionistic if its economic development is weakening, he said adding that such circumstances will not be applied as the U.S. has passed the economic recession.

Minister Siregar expressed confidence that the establishment of NAFTA will not affect Indonesia's export products, particularly textiles to the region. Mexico still imports textile products from Indonesia, he added.

On the ocassion, the minister also revealed Indonesia's policies in the face of the deadlock of the Uruguay round.

UNTAC's Akashi Meets Suharto, Says Polls Must Proceed

BK1801115593 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 18 Jan 93

[Text] Both President Suharto and Yasushi Akashi, special representative of the UN secretary general and head of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], agree on the need to seek a new breakthrough in the settlement of the Cambodian issue, which is now causing grave concern. Speaking to newsmen following a courtesy call on President Suharto at the Bina Graha Presidential Office in Jakarta this afternoon, Yasushi Akashi expressed full support for Foreign Minister Ali Alatas' visits to Beijing, Bangkok, and Phnom Penh to renew efforts to achieve peace and stability in Cambodia.

The special representative of the UN secretary general quoted President Suharto as attaching importance to peace and stability in Cambodia. In this regard, Indonesia continues to be fully committed to the peace process. According to Yasushi Akashi, the head of state stressed that this role

owed in part to Indonesia's position as cochairman of the Paris conference on Cambodia. In addition, Indonesia is also responsible for peace and stability in Southeast Asia, and Indonesia is much more the current chairman of the Nonaligned Movement.

Answering a question on a general election to be held in Cambodia next May, Yasushi Akashi said that the election could not be further postponed because any postponement would creater new difficulties. About 90 percent of Cambodians are ready to participate in the general election.

On the ocassion, the special representative of the UN secretary general also expressed thanks to the Indonesian Government for its serious role, particularly by dispatching two battalions to Cambodia. According to Akashi, the Indonesian peacekeepers are very good soldiers and will serve as models for peacekeepers from other countries.

Yasushi Akashi also said that the UN peace mission in Cambodia was the most expensive force the United Nations had ever sent to achieve peace in a region. The mission spends U.S. $100 million monthly.

Foreign Minister Meets Akashi

BK1801125393 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 18 Jan 93

[Text] The Indonesian Government will exert maximum efforts to persuade the Khmer Rouge to participate in the Cambodian presidential election. Foreign Minister Ali Alatas expressed the Indonesian Government's determination before newsmen after holding some two hours of talks with Yasushi Akashi, head of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], in Jakarta this morning. He said Indonesia has pledged to make serious efforts to persuade the Khmer Rouge to end the deadlock over the Cambodian peace process. There have been signs of success as some 90 percent of Cambodians have registered their names to participate in the Cambodian election scheduled to be held in the middle of this year. He will [words indistinct] the Cambodian peace process during his visits to Beijing, Bangkok, and Phnom Penh.

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas is scheduled to leave for the three countries tomorrow. He will, among other things, hold talks with Khieu Samphan in Bangkok and hold further talks with Yasushi Akashi in Phnom Penh.

Meanwhile, the UNTAC head said the peace process and the establishment of a permanent government in Cambodia would go ahead as scheduled even without the Khmer Rouge's participation.

Turkey To Issue Gratis Visas To Indonesians

BK1501104493 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0836 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 15 (ANTARA)—The Government of Turkey has decided to issue gratis visas or free of visa fee to Indonesian nationals entering Turkey for touristic purposes for a stay of two months, at the entering ports by immigration officials, according to a press release from the Turkish Embassy here on Friday. As of January 14, 1993, the Embassy of Turkey started to implement the new regulation [words indistinct] missions.

Armed Forces Chief Opposes Protest Via 'Improper Procedures'

BK1901085693 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0703 GMT 19 Jan 93

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 19 (OANA/ANTARA)—Armed Forces (ABRI) Chief General Try Sutrisno has said that the people are not allowed to lodge protests or criticisms through improper procedures or unconstitutional methods.

The armed forces commander made the statement in his written address read out by Chief of the General Staff Affairs of the Armed Forces Lieutenant Genetal Feisal Tanjung, during a flag-raising ceremony at the ABRI headquarters in Cilangkap on Monday.

Sutrisno warned that political openness and freedom is easily abused in implementation particularly by the people who have a lack of knowledge about political openness and freedom or by those who construe openness beyond the context of the Pancisila state ideology and the 1945 Constitution.

He said that the country's Pancasila democracy respects opinion differences and the right to express opinions of the people, but it also defines that the people should respect their obligations and responsibilities as well.

The armed forces commander said that the openness which should be developed in the Pancasila democracy sphere is a critical attitude oriented to a rational and proportional context and values contained in the principles of the Pancasila philosophy.

The ABRI Chief admitted that criticisms and opinion differences are needed to boost dynamism and creativity which are vitally important for development.

He reminded that democracy in whatever country always has definition which has to be abode by the whole people with full responsibility.

Try Sutrisno asked the people to make the forthcoming general session of the country's highest body, the People's Deliberative Assembly (MPR), in March, which is among other things to elect the country's president for the next five years time, successful.

State Company To Retain Satellite, Submarine Cable Systems

BK1601113993 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Text] The Indosat State Corporation will retain its satellite and submarine cable transmission systems because both systems ensure the smooth operation of the

international telephone network from and to Indonesia. Speaking to reporters in Medan, Bambang Sulistyo, director for operations, said while the satellite transmission system is not limited by location and distance, the submarine cable transmission system must pay attention to the destination area.

As the two systems are complementary, the Indosat State Corporation will continue to use them. He noted that satellite services are used for long-distance destinations, such as Europe, while the submarine cable system is used for nearby destinations. The two systems are also mutually supportive, namely, when the submarine cable system experiences interference, it will automatically revert to the satellite system so ongoing telephone conversations are not disrupted.

Laos

Joint MIA Recovery Operation With U.S. Begins

BK1601095293 Vientiane KPL in English 0920 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Text] Vientiane, January 16 (KPL)—Technical teams of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the United States on January 14 began a joint recovery operation in the southern Lao Provinces of Sekong and Attopeu, according to the Lao Foreign Ministry.

This is the first joint field activity conducted this year under an expanded program of joint activities. The activity will take two weeks to investigate and to excavate aircraft crash sites. During the period, they will also investigate other aircraft crash sites in different areas to the two provinces.

In 1992, the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic] gave good cooperation to and met the desire of the U.S. side on a humanitarian basis in the matter through conducting seven joint recovery operations in the Provinces of Attopeu, Saravane, Savannakhet, Xieng Khouang, and Houa Phan.

During the year, the U.S. side provided some assistance to Laos including the construction of two schools, the provision of 4,000 metric tons of rice and over U.S. Dollars 400,000 for the people and for the economic and social development in the war-torn areas.

CPC Delegation Received by Maichantan, Departs

BK1801104193 Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 18 Jan 93

[Text] Vientiane, January 18 (KPL)—Mr. Maichantan Sengmani, party Politburo member and head of the Party-State Control Board, on 16 January afternoon received a delegation of the Communist Party of China's [CPC] Discipline Control Board led by its deputy secretary.

Maichantan said the visit of the delegation represented a good opportunity for the authorities concerned of the two sides to exchange experience on party control activities in each country.

The Chinese party control delegation on the same day afternoon met with the party-state control delegation of Laos led by its deputy head, Mrs. Davon Vongsak, to exchange experiences on their work. The sides informed each other of their respective parties' renovation policy and discussed ways to facilitate future contacts and visits between officials of the two boards.

During its eight-day visit to Laos, the Chinese delegation also met with the leading authorities of the Provinces of Savannakhet and Champassak and of Vientiane Municipality for the same purpose. The delegation left for home yesterday.

Khamtai Siphandon Visits Phong Saly, Sayaboury

BK1201065593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 11 Jan 93

[Text] From 6 to 8 January, Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, made a trip to inspect the implementation of economic development plans in the northern Provinces of Phong Saly and Sayaboury and the Sianghon- Hongsa Special Zone.

During the inspection tour, the prime minister was accorded a warm welcome by the party committees, administrative committees, and various ethnic people in each province. He heard official reports on the outcome of the implementation of the socioeconomic plans in 1992, the development plans for 1993, as well as the long-term development plans for 1993-2000 of the provinces of Phong Saly and Sayaboury and the special zone.

The prime minister took an opportunity to focus on the solving of certain problems and gave authorities and people essential instructions on the carrying out of economic, cultural, and social development; national defense; and public security maintenance in each province. These instructions are meant to be principal guidelines for the officials and people to carry out works and activities appropriately in conformity with the country's current situation in the innovation period.

He said economic development should be based on the actual potential and conditions of each region. The prime minister also emphasized the importance of the restructuring of the national economy. He noted that the national economy at present basically depends on agricultural and forestry production, which is closely related to the fields of industry and service.

Furthermore, Khamtai Siphandon also advised that administrators and officials in each province should actively revive, improve, and promote the production of

goods by the ethnic people. These include rice cultivation, animal raising, collecting of forest products, and growing of fruit trees and other industrial plants. In doing all of these, people should always bear in mind the importance of the natural environment and therefore should try to avoid forest destruction.

Finally, the prime minister appealed to party committees and administrative committees at all levels to intensify solidarity among all parties and masses and to resolutely make more efforts in paving ways for developing their respective localities.

Philippines

U.S. Embassy on 'Red Alert'; Iraqis Monitored

HK1601032593 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] The United States Embassy in Manila is now on red alert following the U.S. and allied forces' bombing of Iraq. Western Police District personnel have been deployed at the embassy to support security staff. The embassy was alerted after it received reports that some Iraqi nationals and sympathizers in metro Manila might demonstrate violence.

Meanwhile, the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation [BID] has been monitoring movements of Iraqi nationals presently residing in the Philippines. BID Commissioner Zafiro Respicio said the action was made in accordance with the tension in the Gulf area. Respicio added the government aims to thwart any possible adverse action by Iraqi citizens which might endanger national security.

Government To Offer Safe Conduct to Exiled Communist Leaders

HK1601072793 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] The government has stressed it will grant safe conduct passes to exiled communist leaders Jose Maria Sison and Luis Jalandoni if the latter agree to hold formal peace talks in the country. Aside from safe conduct passes, the church was reported to have offered free board and lodging to the leaders.

Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon said the government has not set any conditions in inviting Sison and Jalandoni. National Unification Commission Chairperson Haydee Yorac said the government is inviting the two National Democratic Front officials to visit the Philippines as tourists in order to prove the sincerity of the Filipinos in seeking to realize peace.

Communist Leader Says CPP Faction May Form Legal Left

HK1901070693 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE WEEKLY in English 19 Jan 93 pp 1, 6

[Report by Chay Florentino-Hofilena]

[Text] A prominent leftist leader has raised the possibility of a group of younger leaders breaking away from the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and forming a group that would fight for its cause in the legal political arena.

In an interview with the Chronicle, Ricardo Reyes, presenting himself as CPP secretary general, said the formation of "a new left" in the "immediate" future has become "a very strong possibility" following an open rift between a faction that included him and Jose Ma. Sison, believed to have reassumed the party's chairmanship.

Sison has been living in exile in the Netherlands since he was freed in 1986 by the government of Mrs Corazon C. Aquino. Last month, the party was thrown into turmoil when Sison accused Reyes and two other rebel leaders of being military agents and of being responsible for a bloody purge in the movement a few years ago.

Reyes and the two other leaders—Romulo Kintanar, former chief of the New People's Army, and Benjamin de Vera, head of the CPP Mindanao Commission—have denied Sison's accusations.

Reyes said the entire leftist movement was now going through such a period of "realignment, regrouping, reorganization" that even a coalition with existing legal groups remains feasible.

"We have almost defaulted from engaging in a real parliamentary process, which, in other more dynamic revolutionary movements abroad...hindi 'yan tinitingnang [They are not seen as] exclusive of one another. All forms of struggle should be used," he said.

Of the feud with Sison, he said, "Ang resolution diyan [The resolution there is] is, one may get the upper hand and kung ganoon [if it is so], it will depend on the attitude of the minority. Kung sinong maging minority diyan, susunod ba iyon doon o aalis na lang?" [Whoever will be the minority there will be support it or well he just go away?]

He disclosed that as early as 1988 a bloc in the Party had already called for a reexamination of their theories and strategies in light of the February 1986 popular revolution that ended Ferdinand Marcos' dictatorship. Increasingly, the need for greater democracy within the party was raised, but all this was rejected by Sison.

The clamor for adjustments to the changing times and political temperament is strong among members in the urban areas and a good number of the First Quarter Storm generation of the 1970s, Reyes said. A big number, if not the majority, share their views, he said.

Sison's analysis of the reason for the collapse of socialist governments in Eastern Europe is fundamentally flawed, Reyes said, rejecting revisionism as the culprit.

Reyes said that revisionism, which holds that the problem lies with failure to adjust to the original theory, is basically unscientific. Marxist theories, as in other

scientific theories, he said, should therefore be validated by practice and experience, not the other way around.

Sison's call for a return to the Maoist strategy of encircling the cities from the countryside also is being disputed.

Besides fundamental differences, Reyes pointed to the increasing restrictions being imposed in the party as another source of friction.

For instance, he said, "horizontal discussions are banned." This means a member from Southern Tagalog is not allowed to talk to people in Manila, he said.

Reyes said even factions, or anything close to a faction, are also banned. "People who take a similar position are not supposed to consolidate their position as a group because that would be a faction. There is a long tradition in the national democratic movement against that, a long tradition of hostility to that practice."

The fractious process has been "agonizing," especially since their generation was reared by Sison.

"We practically learned our Marxism at his feet. Siya iyong leader namin. Iyong paradigm namin, siya. Kaya napaka-ago-nizing niyan." [He is our leader. He is our paradigm. That is why it is so agonizing.]

Suggestions for the holding of another plenum or even a party congress to resolve the differences have already been turned down by Sison, dimming hopes for a settlement.

However, the future of the movement will be determined in the long run not by them, but by the succeeding generations, younger, more dynamic leaders less bound by the traditions of the CPP. These leaders could take on "more radical" views that could even force the three so-called renegades into early retirement.

The transformation, Reyes hopes, will reinvigorate the movement. "Mayroong mga [There are] old, decadent structures that are giving way and new structures coming up—a vibrant, more dynamic more in keeping with the times, bearing the socialist vision, but more creative and more forward-looking. Actually, baka transition figures lang kami." [We might only be transition figures]

Meanwhile, Satur Ocampo, a leader of the National Democratic Front, the CPP's political arm, said the formation of breakaway group would be a "logical result" if Sison and the three locally based rebel leaders would not patch up their differences.

But Ocampo said these differences could still be settled. He urged his feuding former comrades again not to engage in public quarrels.

Diplomat Urges Action on New Ambassador to Germany

HK0801080493 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 8 Jan 93 p 5

[Report by Jose G. Ebro]

[Text] Delay in naming a new envoy to Bonn threatens to convey the impression that the Philippines is not giving due importance to its ties with the dominant European power, the Philippine Embassy charge d'affaires there, Milagros Perez, has warned.

In a recent message to the Department of Foreign Affairs, Ms. Perez pointed out that the post has been vacant since former envoy Bienvenido Tan was recalled last June. She urged the "designation of a new ambassador to Germany at the earliest opportunity," observing that other ASEAN countries "do not have gaps in the tenure of outgoing and incoming ambassadors."

Germany is the world's fourth largest ODA [Overseas Development Assistance] donor at $6.3 billion annually behind only the U.S., Japan, and France. In 1991, Germany committed DM60 million [Deutsche mark] in bilateral aid to the Philippines. Of this amount, DM10 million went to relief aid for Mt. Pinatubo victims, DM17.5 million in concessional loans, and DM32.5 million in grants.

Competition

Ms. Perez warned that the Philippines would have "to exert more effort to maintain at least the current level of German aid," given increased competition for ODA posed by former East Bloc and Soviet Republics and the budgetary difficulties Germany is experiencing because of the costs of reunification. She pointed out that the restructuring of the former East German economy and the effects of the global recession combined to bring about Germany's first deficit in more than 10 years.

German investment in the Philippines has been increasing steadily. In 1990, German investments were at $44.5 million. By the following year, this had grown to $116.1 million. And last year, this increased to $150.8 million.

Treaty

To encourage more German investments, Ms. Perez is urging the DFA to "resuscitate" a bilateral treaty on the promotion and protection of investments signed in 1964.

"According to Dr. Rolf Dietmar of the Ministry of Economics," Ms. Perez, said, "this was ratified by the German Government but not by the Philippines." Germany has similar agreements with 62 countries, including four ASEAN countries.

Bilateral trade exhibited a 29 percent increase in 1991 over the previous year with Philippine exports totalling around $670 million.

Trade and investment issues were the focus of discussions between Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto Romulo and German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel last October.

At that time, both foreign ministers agreed to look for "proper mechanisms" to boost trade and investment ties.

In the meantime, expatriate Filipinos there pose a continuing consular problem such as illegal migrants, mail-order brides, fake travel documentation, domestic helper runaways, illegitimate children and divorces complicated by conflicting laws, the Philippine Embassy reported.

Roundup of Rebel Activities 9-15 January

HK1801023793

[Editorial Report] The following is a roundup of reports on Philippine rebel activities from the Philippine media monitored by FBIS from 9 to 15 January. Source information is given in parentheses at the end of each item. 11 Jan

A police officer, Julio Hulipaz of the 175th Mobile Force Company-Philippine National Police [MFC-PNP], and New People's Army [NPA] rebel Siono Armasan, alias Comrade Unod San Idelfonso, were killed, while Executive Officer Pablo Ique and Senior Police Freddie de los Santos of the San Rafael police station, and Narian Rodriguez, alias Comrade Tina of Malolos Bulacan, were wounded in an encounter in Barangay Moronquillos, San Rafael, Bulacan.

Philippine Marines Colonel Reynaldo Acot, who led mopping up operations, reported the capture of NPA members Alexander Apostol, alias Comrade Fernan, of San Miguel, and Freddie de Leon. (Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT)

Four NPA members, operating in Candelaria, Talugtog, and Palawig in Zambales and Western Pangasinan, surrendered to the military during the first week of January. Major Rudy Guligado, group commander of the Civil Relations Group in Ilocos Region, identified the surrenderees as Leo Santos, alias Comrade Ener and Ely; Gilbert Rivera, alias Comrade Boyet; Bobby Makatuag, alias Comrade Rock; and Tony Nicolas, alias Comrade Jen. The last two carry 15,000 Philippine-peso prices on their heads. (Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT)

Six NPA members operating in the Cordillera region surrendered to General Edgardo Batenga today. They were identified as Jaime Baguingan of the NPA-Cordillera Regional Party Committee's [CRPC] military ordinance and explosives unit; Nestor Unday and Josephine Lugayan of the CRPC medical unit; Imelda Bassong of the CRPC socio-economic unit; and Leonardo Bassong and Dionisio Bangawan, all from Kalinga-Apayao. The six met with Defense Secretary Renato de Villa this morning. (Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT) 12 Jan

Philippine Army officers Colonel Rodolfo Loralyes, 2d Infantry Division deputy commander; Major Alfonso Bernate, 201 Brigade Operations chief; Captain Batican, and Majors Alberto Noriega and Rely Mahadillas fought off about 30 NPA rebels who ambushed them as they landed in a helicopter in a forested area in barangay Calabrigan in Camarines Sur. There were no reports of casualties on either side. (Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English)

Benildo Celo and his common-law wife, Grace Obispo, both members of the NPA Regional Guerrilla Unit operating in Eastern Samar, have surrendered to Representative Jose Ramirez. They turned over two M-16 armalite rifles, and led police to the recovery of hidden high-powered guns and other military hardware. (Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English) 13 Jan

An NPA commander and two aides were killed and several other rebels were wounded in an encounter between with the Agusan del Sur Philippine National Police at the boundary of Agusan del Sur and Davao del Norte. The PNP operatives engaged the rebels in a running gun battle which resulted in the killing of NPA commander Johnny Sibog of Kilometer II, Sasa, Davao City, and two aides, Elmer Maynopas and Melecio Palili. Recovered from the rebels were three high-powered automatic weapons, a U.S.-made shot-gun, fragmentation hand grenades, and several rounds of ammunition. (Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English) 14 Jan

Southern Tagalog NPA secretary Reynaldo Alvega, alias Comrade Fernan, 30 years old, resident of Calauag, Quezon, was captured by the police in La Loma, Quezon City on 12 January. Surveillance reports indicated that he was the brains behind the kidnapping of an Atimonan policeman in 1988. He also coordinated actions with Sparrow units in Manila that resulted in the ambush killing of a Major Ramos of the 31st Infantry Battalion Philippine Army in 1986. (Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT)

NPA rebels burned down Hacienda Kainyawan last week destroying 75 hectares of sugar cane. The sugar plantation located in Barangay Balabag, La Carlota City, Negros Occidental, is owned by politician Eduardo Danding Cojuangco. A pursuit operation against the raiders has been launched.

Meanwhile, members of the 11th Infantry Battallion arrested NPA members Roberto Sosio, alias Comrade Jessie, and Julio Delicano, alias Comrade Roland, in a raid conducted on the homes of Jose Alepare and Erlindo Jasero in Sitio Dilangkoy-Gamay, Barangay Cabalyangan, Himamaylan. (Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT)

Thailand

Premier Chuan Likphai Meets Japan's Miyazawa

BK1501141293 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] At 1430, an official welcoming ceremony for Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa was held on the lawn in front of the Government House. Prime Minister Chuan Likphai escorted the Japanese prime minister to review the guard of honor and introduced senior Thai officials including Deputy

Prime Minister Banyat Banthatthan and Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri, as well as military leaders and foreign diplomats. Afterwards, the prime minister held official consultations with the Japanese prime minister, followed by a full-delegation meeting between the two sides. Aphisit Wetchachiwa, spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office, held a press conference on the results of the talks between Prime Minister Chuan Likphai his Japanese guest. Aphisit said that the two prime ministers had reviewed close relations and the exchanges of visits between members of the royal families of the two countries. Prime Minister Chuan informed Miyazawa that Her Majesty the Queen will visit Japan in April. The Japanese prime minister responded that Japan is preparing to give a grand welcome. On the occasion, the prime minister expressed congratulations on the upcoming wedding of the Japanese crown prince. The Japanese prime minister praised Thailand for being able to solve its political crisis smoothly.

The two prime ministers also discussed the political situation and peace process in Cambodia. The two countries share a common goal in seeing peace restored in Cambodia. The prime minister praised Japan for playing a vital role in restoring peace in Cambodia in addition to its role in regional economic development. The two prime ministers agreed that a presidential election prior to the general elections in Cambodia with Prince Norodom Sihanouk running in the presidential election would be a positive solution to the Cambodian problem. They also agreed with the joint statement of the ASEAN foreign ministers calling for the election of the Cambodian president prior to general elections by supporting Prince Norodom Sihanouk in a presidential election.

In addition, the two prime minister also shared a common view of economic development in Indochinese countries. Thailand is ready to support economic reconstruction in those countries.

Chuan, Miyazawa on Cambodia

OW1501144393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1417 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Bangkok, Jan. 15 KYODO—Japan and Thailand on Friday endorsed moves to hold an early Cambodian presidential election and agreed to support Prince Norodom Sihanouk and a chief United Nations peacekeeper as key figures to restore peace in the war-ravaged country.

The two countries also pledged to seek self-restraint in both military and political aspects on the part of both the Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction and the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh government.

The accord was reached at a two-hour meeting between visiting Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and his Thai counterpart Chuan Likphai, Japanese officials said.

The two leaders, meeting for the first time, welcomed a decision by Sihanouk, Cambodian head of state, to run in the proposed presidential election planned ahead of general elections in May.

They agreed that Japan and Thailand will back Sihanouk, who heads a national reconciliation council comprising four feuding groups, and Yasushi Akashi, chief of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), to make them a "centripetal force" of peace, the officials said.

Akashi, a Japanese national, is to brief Miyazawa Saturday on the peace process, which is endangered by the Khmer Rouge's refusal to disarm its guerrilla troops.

In seeking the presidential election, it was agreed to consult with other countries involved in the peace process, including Indonesia and France which co-chaired the 1991 Paris conference that led to a peace accord, and to cooperate with each Cambodian faction.

Despite the signing of the UN-brokered peace accord by all four factions, UNTAC has reported renewed fighting and attacks on political groups, laying particular blame on the Khmer Rouge.

Foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) earlier in the day issued a joint statement urging an early presidential election and pledging full support to Sihanouk, now in Beijing for treatment of illness.

Thai Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri, who was also present at the meeting, met Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan in Bangkok Friday and plans to meet Sihanouk in the Chinese capital next week.

Prasong briefed Miyazawa on the ASEAN move and described the prince as the only Cambodian who can unite various interest groups, the officials said.

Miyazawa, who arrived from Kuala Lumpur earlier Friday on the third leg of a four-nation ASEAN tour, endorsed the ASEAN position and praised Thailand for implementing an oil embargo and other UN- mandated sanctions against the Khmer Rouge at the cost of its economic interests, they said.

Turning to other topics, Chuan quoted Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed, whom he met last week in Kuala Lumpur, as stressing that the controversial East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC) is not a trade bloc but a forum for the exchange of views.

Miyazawa, fresh from talks with Mahathir, told Chuan that the Malaysian leader, who mooted the idea in 1990, appears to be concerned that North America and Europe may turn into trade blocs, adding that Japan hopes to wait for an ASEAN working group to finish fine-tuning the concept before deciding on its position, the officials said.

At his meeting with Miyazawa on Thursday, Mahathir did not raise the proposal, strongly opposed by the United

States as a protectionist move, to avoid embarassing him due to Japan's reluctance to join the grouping.

Bangkok is the third stop on Miyazawa's eight-day trip which earlier took him to Indonesia. He will fly to Brunei on Sunday before returning to Tokyo Monday.

On bilateral issues, Chuan sought Japanese help to develop supporting industries such as parts production, and to promote technology transfer and training of personnel, the officials said.

He also proposed that Japan and ASEAN join forces in developing the Southeast Asian region, Indochina in particular, using Thailand as a channel to make it a trilateral cooperation.

Miyazawa is to make a major policy speech Saturday, focusing on Japan's foreign policy toward Southeast Asia, and officials said he will propose a plan relating to Indochina's development strategy.

Ahead of the meeting with Chuan, Miyazawa had an audience with Thai King Phumiphon at his Chitralada palace. He was later honored at a dinner hosted by Chuan.

Miyazawa will also meet commanders from a Japanese contingent of UNTAC on Saturday to gain first-hand information on the Cambodian situation.

The Japanese team, the first military group sent abroad since the end of World War II, comprises 600 personnel, mostly Self-Defense Forces engineers, and 75 civilian policemen. Its duties are limited to noncombat affairs.

Chuan on Japan's Role in UN

OW1601103693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1451 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Bangkok, Jan. 15 KYODO—Thailand threw support Friday [15 January] behind Japan's bid to play a greater security role in the region, suggesting that Tokyo is qualified to become a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council.

At a dinner honoring visiting Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, his Thai counterpart Chuan Likphai lauded Japan's dispatch of troops to Cambodia as members of a U.N. peacekeeping team.

"I feel that Japan could contribute much by acting under the U.N. framework in cooperation with the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) countries in maintaining durable peace and stability," Chuan said.

Thailand "deems that the time is now ripe for Japan to have a greater role in the United Nations and for her status to be recognized appropriate to the level of economic development and responsibility to the region as seen from her activities in the international arena," he added.

Japan is currently president of the Security Council, of which it is a nonpermanent member.

Miyazawa arrived in Bangkok earlier in the day from Kuala Lumpur on the third leg of a four-nation ASEAN tour.

Chuan Interview on Talks

BK1601084193 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Interview with Prime Minister Chuan Likphai by unidentified reporters at the Education Ministry after inauguration activities marking Teachers Day on 16 January—recorded]

[Text] [Chuan] Japan expressed a desire to see the problem solved smoothly. I told the Japanese prime minister that the Cambodian problem is not easy to solve. Japan fully agreed when I observed that we are just outsiders who are helping Cambodia because we want to see peace in this region, something which is in the interests of the Cambodian people. But if the Cambodian factions do not cooperate and try to find a settlement themselves, it is then difficult to see an end to the problem. In my opinion, no matter how hard we try, efforts will be fruitless without cooperation from all factions in Cambodia. The problem will be settled smoothly only with their cooperation. The Japanese prime minister fully agreed with us on that.

[Reporter] Do you think that all countries participating in the Cambodian peace process will support the ASEAN stance on this matter?

[Chuan] I think that every country will support any measure which would make a settlement possible. Concerning the joint statement, the matter was discussed between our foreign minister and his Malaysian counterpart in Malaysia. Then our foreign minister sought approval from all other ASEAN foreign ministers at a discussion with them.

[Reporter] What is the attitude of the four Cambodian factions?

[Chuan] I still don't know about it.

[Question indistinct]

[Chuan] It's their problem. We won't comment on their internal affairs. The Khmer Rouge has its own reasons. Anyway, the foreign minister will carry my letter to Prince Sihanouk.

[Reporter] Can you reveal the details of it?

[Chuan] There is nothing special. It's what the foreign minister already stated: a proposal for a presidential election before the general elections, and to arrange for Prince Sihanouk to run for president.

[Reporter] If there are others....

[Chuan] We welcome that, but I think everyone would want Prince Sihanouk as president.

Prasong Praises Miyazawa Visit

BK1701074693 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 17 Jan 93

[Text] The official visit to Thailand of Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa as guest of the Thai Government from 15 to 17 January has further strengthened good relations between Thailand and Japan. Speaking to reporters about the tangible benefits of the Japanese prime minister's visit, Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri said:

[Begin recording] [Prasong] Economic and social cooperation between the two countries will be further discussed. I believe that the visit has been very useful in this regard. As for political cooperation, the important issue is the Cambodian problem. The Japanese prime minister supports ASEAN's stance, in particular that the presidential elections should be held before the general elections. He told our prime minister that Japan is ready to cooperate with Thailand and other ASEAN member countries in Cambodia's reconstruction.

[Unidentified reporter] Does the joint efforts made by the ASEAN countries indicate that we do not care for UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia]?

[Prasong] It indicates the concern of all ASEAN member countries for the situation in Cambodia and of the ASEAN members' desire for national reconcilation in Cambodia for the sake of durable peace. By so doing, the ASEAN members have also demonstrated their political unity in making joint efforts to settle the Cambodian problem. [end recording]

At 0910 today, the Japanese prime minister left Thailand for a visit to Brunei.

Papers Welcome Japanese Prime Minister's Visit

BK1501143793

[Editorial Report] Two Thai-language dailies—THAI RAT and SIAM RAT—on 14 January carry editorials welcoming Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's visit to Thailand on 15-17 January.

THAI RAT's 600-word editorial on page 3, titled: "Miyazawa in ASEAN", says Miyazawa's foreign visit, starting with countries in the ASEAN bloc, reflects the importance Japan attaches to the Asia-Pacific region. It is smart of Japan to target ASEAN since this is a vast market for Japanese products, especially now with growing trade protectionism and the building of NAFTA and the EC.

"By adopting an open policy, Japan will contribute more to ASEAN countries through financial assistance as well as high technology transfers. This is what the ASEAN countries have been looking for. In return, Japan will have a vast region of 350 million people in Southeast Asia as its market, to make up for the diminishing markets in America and Europe. Japan will also earn economic and political allies in the ASEAN bloc," the paper concludes.

SIAM RAT's 600-word editorial on page 3, entitled: "Welcome, Mr. Miyazawa", notes that Bangkok has been chosen as the venue for the Japanese prime minister to deliver a key speech on Japanese policy on Southeast Asia in the post-cold war era. "Thailand and Japan have maintained good relations, and there is no strong feeling in Thailand against Japanese militarism. Meanwhile, sentiment against Japanese militarism exists in other ASEAN countries. And this has made it difficult for Japan to boost its role and cooperation in the region. The Japanese prime minister is expected to make this point clear in his policy address here," the editorial says.

Concerning bilateral relations, the editorial hopes that unfair trade exchanges between Thailand and Japan will be raised for discussion between the Japanese and Thai leaders. There has been frustration in Thailand because Japan has refused to open its markets wider for Thai goods. Thailand should also seek to participate in the development projects under the Mekong development program, which is of interest to Japan.

Foreign Minister: Khmer Rouge Accepts Election Proposal

BK1601130893 Hong Kong AFP in English 1134 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Text] Bangkok, Jan 16 (AFP)—The Khmer Rouge accepts an ASEAN proposal for a presidential election to be held in Cambodia prior to a general election for a constituent assembly, Thai Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said Saturday.

Prasong told AFP he was "hopeful" that the proposal put forward Friday by foreign ministers of the six-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations would break the impasse in Cambodia.

The U.N.-led peace process in Cambodia has been jeopardized since June when the Khmer Rouge refused to join other factions in laying down arms.

The ASEAN proposal expressed full support for a bid by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's most respected leader both at home and abroad, to become president.

ASEAN groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Prasong said he won Khmer Rouge acceptance for the ASEAN approach when he met its nominal leader Khieu Samphan shortly before the proposal was announced in Singapore.

According to the ASEAN statement, "an elected president would facilitate the conduct of the general elections and would also provide an anchor of stability in the period after the general elections."

The statement also welcomed Sihanouk's announcement that he was ready to run in a presidential election, saying he "will be able to play a pivotal role in bringing about national reconciliation among all Cambodians."

U.N.-supervised elections for a constituent assembly are due to take place in Cambodia around May.

Prasong is to fly Sunday to Beijing to discuss Cambodia with Sihanouk, who is in the Chinese capital for medical treatment, and with Chinese leaders.

Prasong on Coming Talks With Sihanouk in Beijing

BK1701144293 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 17 Jan 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri granted an interview prior to his departure for China for a meeting with Prince Norodom Sihanouk. He said their discussion will involve the future of Cambodia. He said the plan of a presidential election in Cambodia is backed by ASEAN countries, but Cambodia's readiness on this issue is still in question. Prasong said he would seek to know what Prince Sihanouk's plan is concerning the matter.

[Begin Prasong recording, in progress] ... at present, as many factions are not ready for the elections, especially the Khmer Rouge. I will therefore ask him what he thinks about this problem, and, in his opinion, what steps should be taken next. As for my part, I will report to Prince Sihanouk on the stance adopted by ASEAN members: ASEAN support for a presidential election prior to a general election in Cambodia and ASEAN backing for Prince Sihanouk to run in the presidential election. This is considered a step enabling the four Cambodian factions to pursue efforts to solve their problem. Only Prince Sihanouk would be able to make the Cambodian factions turn to each other—at least, we see a greater chance in him than in other persons. This is the main reason for my trip. [end recording]

The foreign minister said he believed the Khmer Rouge would not obstruct the presidential election plan since the move would only benefit Cambodia.

[Begin Prasong recording, in progress] ... to solve the political problem. In fact, in any country, the political problem must be tackled first before tackling the economic problem, the problem of poverty, and so on. Only when there is peace and unity, will a country be able to pursue efforts to solve economic and social problems, and the problem of poverty. The same is true with Cambodia. Once a political settlement is achieved, there will be a chance for Cambodia to move ahead in economic and social development and in efforts to improve the living condition for its people. Other countries stand ready to help Cambodia rebuild the country. I therefore think all Cambodian factions must now think seriously about their problems. [end recording]

Thai Army Opens Attache Office in Vietnam

BK1701075293 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Text] The Thai Armed Forces has opened an office of the army attache in Hanoi, SRV. The office is at the following address: 40B, Truong Chinh Road. This is the ninth office of the Thai army attache. Thailand has already opened army attache offices in France, Russia, Cuba, India, China, Laos, Cambodia, and Indonesia. The service of the office of the army attache is to act as adviser to the Thai ambassador and to represent the Armed Forces in efforts to strengthen ties with the host countries.

Lao Soldiers Arrest Villagers for Ransom

BK1801140293 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 18 Jan 93

[Text] Surasak Buakhao, Chat Phatthana Party's member of the House of Representatives from Ubon Ratchathani Province, said that eight villagers of Khan Sung and Chanuman were arrested by Lao soldiers on 2 January. The Lao soldiers demanded that each villager pay 12,500 baht ransom for their release. Six villagers have managed to pay the ransom and have been released. The remaining two villagers are still being detained in Laos because they do not have enough money. He has sent a letter to the interior minister asking for assistance to secure the quick release of the two villagers.

Vietnam

U.S. Experts Help Complete MIA Investigations

BK1601154393 Hanoi VNA in English 1529 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 16—Vietnamese and U.S. experts today completed the 21st joint search on Americans missing in action (MIA). The two-week search was conducted in many localities in the provinces of Son La, Yen Bai, Quang Tri, Thua Thien-Hue, Quang Nam-Da Nang, Gia Lai and Kontum.

Efforts for collecting information on MIA were made at the Army Museum (Hanoi) and 5th Army Zone Museum (Quang Nam-Da Nang).

Investigation on the news 'Livesighting Americans' was also conducted actively.

The Vietnamese and American experts conducted investigation of 21 priority cases and 19 adjacent ones. They also conducted survey and excavation of two areas in Son La and Yen Bai Provinces where U.S. aircrafts had crashed in the Vietnam war. The experts collected information, belongings and remains concerning the reported MIA's. Meanwhile local people in various places handed over a number of remains to Vietnam's offices concerned. On Jan. 16 in Hanoi, the experts of the two countries conducted initial examination of those remains.

By January 16 Vietnamese and U.S. experts had completed at least one round of investigation of all the 135 discrepancy cases which were given priority in 1992 by the two governments. Cooperation and assistance from the local authorities and people and many offices throughout the country has made a decisive contribution to the completion of this difficult and complicated work.

Vietnam Signs Convention To Ban Chemical Weapons

BK1601153793 Hanoi VNA in English 1523 GMT 16 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan.16—Vietnam has signed in Paris the convention on totally banning the production, piling and use of chemical weapons and on destroying them.

It was signed by the Vietnamese ambassador to France, Trinh Ngoc Thai, together with representatives of more than 120 countries.

Roundup of Thai Army Chief's Visit

BK1501145193 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Military relations between Thailand and the SRV have taken another step following a two-day visit to Vietnam by the Thai army commander, General Wimon Wongwanit, Army commander, accompanied by a delegation of high-ranking officers, including General Pramon Phalasin, Army chief of staff, called on several SRV military and government leaders during the visit.

The Army commander's delegation was welcomed by Lieutenant General Tran Hanh, SRV deputy chief of staff, when they arrived at Noi Bai Airport. The group then met General Dao Dinh Luyen, SRV deputy defense minister. General Wimon, accompanied by General Dao Dinh Luyen, reviewed the honor guard at the Defense Ministry guesthouse. They held consultations during which both sides expressed satisfaction over the good relations between the armies of both countries.

Later on, the Thai Army commander and his delegation called on Nguyen Manh Cam, SRV foreign minister, at the Foreign Ministry. The subjects of the talks were bilateral relations and the Cambodian problem. Both sides shared the view that the Cambodian people should solve their own problems.

Another meeting between General Wimon and General Dao Dinh Luyen, accompanied by their full delegations, was held. At this meeting the Thai Army commander assured Vietnam that the Thai Armed Forces do not support any fighting elements operating in the SRV, and took note of Vietnam's successful forces reduction.

The Army commander and his delegation then called on General Doan Khue, SRV defense minister, and Phan Van Khai, deputy prime minister. They exchanged views on the smooth relations between the two countries.

This morning Army Commander General Wimon Wongwanit laid a wreath at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum. Later on he visited the office of the Thai military attache in Hanoi.

Central Committee Communique on 'Human Factor'

BK1501122893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Communique of the seventh party Central Committee's fourth plenum]

[Text] The fourth plenum of the seventh party Central Committee was held in Hanoi from 4 to 14 January.

The plenum discussed and issued resolutions on education and training work, on a number of cultural and artistic tasks for the years ahead, on pressing issues concerning the need for health care protection under the present situation, on population and family planning policies, and on youth-related work under the new situation.

Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi presented an important report on the tasks of caring for, fostering, and developing the human factor, as well as on the targets for the tasks of making the people prosperous, the country powerful, and society civilized.

The resolutions of the fourth plenum of the party Central Committee assessed the situation, analyzed the causes, and determined the guidelines, targets, and major measures for the aforementioned tasks with the aim of making man loftily intelligent, physically robust, devoutly spiritual, and conscientiously ethical. With such qualities, man can serve as a moving force for the cause of national construction and defense.

The resolutions of the fourth plenum of the party Central Committee are of great significance to the fulfillment of all targets and tasks set forth by the seventh party congress, thus helping prepare the people, especially the younger generation, to firmly embark towards the 21st century.

The party Central Committee believes that with the efforts of our entire party, people, and Army, it is certain that the resolutions of the party Central Committee will be successfully implemented.

Nong Duc Manh Attends Meeting in Lang Son

BK1401132993 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 10 Jan 93

[Text] In the early days of 1993, Nong Duc Manh, National Assembly chairman, attended the eighth meeting of the Lang Son 11th People's Committee. Duong Cong Ba, chairman of the Lang Son People's Council, reported on the organization and activities of the council in 1992 and its program of action for 1993. Trung Hac, chairman of the provincial people's committee, reported to the meeting on the implementation

of 1992 socioeconomic duties and planning for socioeconomic development in 1993.

Compared to 1991, provincial production from the state-run economic sector has increased by 13.6 percent, and the total industrial, agricultural, and forestry production has increased by 3 percent. The gross output of grain in paddy equivalent has reached 131,800 tons. The national budget revenue in the province is 53.7 billion dong, exceeding the target set by the province by 18.7 billion dong and overfulfilling the target of 20.3 billion dong set by state planning. The population growth rate has been reduced by 0.02 percent. These are important factors in the planning for 1993.

In 1993, Lang Son estimates that national budget collection is the foremost important target for the province's socioeconomic development. The province will continue to prevent and decrease corruption and smuggling to strengthen the state order and law and increase national buget collection. It will concentrate its efforts on exploiting the resources in different economic sectors for rapid development in all socioeconomic aspects. It will increase investment in important projects, give priority to infrastructure construction, create favorable conditions for economic development in all areas, decrease all social evils, and gradually improve living standards of ethnic people.

On behalf of the National Assembly Standing Committee, Chairman Nong Duc Manh commended the results achieved by the Lang Son party committee, soldiers, and people. He also pointed out that in order to accelerate the socioeconomic development in 1993, Lang Son must increase its production, especially in local industry, which will provide more jobs for working people and more products for society. He reminded everyone that all levels and sectors, especially the troops deployed in villages along the border, need to further improve the border management work. The province should set aside a fund to help the ethnic people stabilize their life. Forest and hilly land should be allocated to ethnic people so that they can have secure farming and a settled life. Scientific cadres should be deployed to mountainous areas to help the locals apply new scientific and technological knowledge to production. An appropriate policy should be applied for those cadres.

Chairman Nong Duc Manh also spent time meeting voters in Lang Son Town. As a chairman of the National Assembly and a National Assembly deputy of the province, he listened to many opinions on the pressing issues of society and Lang Son Province. These issues are social vices, corruption, smuggling, housing and land issues, jobs for working people, and infrastructure projects such as schools, medical care centers, and transportation and water reservation systems. Chairman Nong Duc Manh recorded the voters' opinions and briefed them on the results of the Ninth National Assembly Second Session. Speaking to the voters, he welcomed those opinions and expressed his hope that in the future, the voters would diligently supervise the activities of the National Assembly activities in all areas in order to enhance their quality and boost the trust between voters and National Assembly deputies.